

JPRS-TAC-86-047

13 JUNE 1986

Worldwide Report

ARMS CONTROL

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13 JUNE 1986

WORLDWIDE REPORT

ARMS CONTROL

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SDI AND SPACE ARMS

FRENCH PRIME MINISTER DISCUSSES SDI PARTICIPATION

AU221535 Paris AFP in English 1525 GMT 22 May 86

[Text] Paris, May 22 (AFP) — Prime Minister Jacques Chirac said Thursday that France must take part in the U.S. Strategic Defense Initiative (SDI), a space-based defense project which he called "inevitable, irreversible and justifiable."

The announcement by the conservative premier, who took over the reins of government in March, marks a switch from the previous Socialist administration that had endorsed President Francois Mitterrand's idea of a European civilian high-tech research project, Eureka, as an alternative to SDI.

Mr. Chirac said France "could not stay out" of SDI. "France is the third world power in space technology after the United States and the Soviet Union," he said. "It is a rank France must not lose."

Critics here charge that Washington would only allow participation in SDI on a subcontracting basis, that research benefits would not be shared with U.S. partners and that it would lead to a brain drain to the United States.

Mr. Chirac said he approved of SDI "on a military level" and that it would be "irresponsible" for France not to take part.

Washington "could not afford" to fall behind the Soviet Union which is pursuing its research beyond what is allowed by the 1972 Anti-Ballistic Missile (ABM) Treaty, he said.

He said SDI was inevitable because throughout history "there is no example of strengthening the sword that has not entailed bolstering the shield."

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CSO: 5200/2691

U. S.-USSR GENEVA TALKS

SOVIET COLONEL CONTRASTS APPROACHES TO STRATEGIC PARITY

Moscow TRUD in Russian 2 Apr 86 p 3

[Article by Col V. Morozov, USSR State Prize winner: "Strategic Parity"]

[Text] "We... achieved strategic military parity, which substantially limited the aggressive plans and opportunities for imperialism to unleash a nuclear war."

(From the CPSU Central Committee Political Report to the 27th Party Congress)

Strategic parity has already existed for a decade and a half. Its heart is equality in the quantity and quality of USSR and U. S. strategic weapons, as well as Warsaw Treaty Organization and NATO intermediate range nuclear weapons and conventional weapons. By preventing American imperialism from achieving military superiority over the Socialist community, the USSR and the other fraternal countries are thereby guaranteeing to mankind its most valuable right -- the right to life.

The preservation of parity between the USSR and U. S. and between the Socialist and Capitalist worlds is not only a factor which ensures the peaceful coexistence of states with different social systems.

This parity is precisely the line from which reduction of nuclear weapons may begin, and it opens the path to real disarmament and the practical implementation of the program for nuclear disarmament proposed by the Soviet Union, which envisions the complete elimination of nuclear weapons by the year 2000.

In the modern world, where states with different social systems coexist and where mighty military and political groupings with tremendous stockpiles of weapons, especially nuclear weapons, oppose one another, practical measures to halt the arms race and toward real disarmament and military detente are impossible if one of the parties strives to achieve unilateral military advantages. In today's real situation, when through the fault of the U. S. and NATO the world situation has become sharply exacerbated and the urgent question of how to stop the militaristic mindlessness of the U. S. and preserve peace in space has been placed on the agenda, observance of the

principle of equality and equal security has taken on primary importance. It is emphasized in the new, large-scale Soviet peace initiatives that proposals have been added to the previously adopted commitment not to be first to use nuclear weapons and not to place anti-satellite systems in space; proposals to reduce by 50 percent nuclear weapons existing in the USSR and U. S. which can reach the territory of one another, with a mandatory condition of a complete ban on all types of nuclear tests.

A correct assessment of the correlation of military forces between East and West was and is of extremely great importance in the struggle for peace, detente and disarmament. It is not easy to assess the military balance of the forces on the two sides. But, despite all difficulties, the military and political leaders of a number of leading states are fairly unanimous in assessing the balance of military forces: At present one can speak about the existence of rough parity of these forces.

Strategic military parity did not take place immediately. In the early 1960's U. S. nuclear capability exceeded the level of nuclear weapons of the Soviet Union. The U. S. developed the so-called strategic triad, consisting of intercontinental ballistic missiles, submarine launched ballistic missiles and heavy bombers. The U. S. was first in the world to begin to equip its ballistic missiles with multiple, independently targetable reentry vehicles [MIRV] and to embark upon the creation of a new type of strategic weapon, long-range cruise missiles.

In the 1970's 550 new Minuteman-3 ICBMs were deployed, each with three warheads, and the Trident-1 SLBM was created. Thirty one submarines were equipped with Poseidon missiles (each with 10-14 warheads). Strategic bombers began to be armed with SRAM [short range attack missiles] (up to 20 missiles per aircraft). As a result, by the start of the 1980's the U. S. strategic capability in nuclear warheads had approximately doubled, from 5,100 to 10,000 warheads.

As a result of retaliatory measures which it adopted, by the start of the 1970's the Soviet Union had succeeded in eliminating the U. S. preponderance of strategic weapons. In February 1971 the U. S. president was forced to state: "Today neither the United States, nor the Soviet Union has clear nuclear superiority." This means that the White House officially acknowledged the equality of strategic nuclear forces of the two main powers which had taken place historically. The achievement of strategic parity was later repeatedly verified during the process of working out the Soviet-American SALT-II Agreement and was officially recorded by the leaders of both countries upon its signing in summer 1979. Such equality became the foundation on which the transition from the "cold war" to detente took place in the 1970's. The peoples of the whole world breathed more freely.

Is it realistic for the U. S. and NATO to try to achieve military superiority under modern conditions? No, of course. The USSR will never make an agreement which infringes upon its security and gives an advantage to the other side. Soviet leaders at the very highest level have repeatedly indicated this. As for U. S. attempts to destroy equality by deploying intermediate range nuclear missiles in Western Europe, as is known, our

effective countermeasures were taken in response. It was then not possible to destroy the approximate parity of forces which had taken shape. Now an attempt is being made to destroy parity by placing strike weapons in space.

Soviet leaders and the leaders of the other Socialist countries have repeatedly stated that the strategic military equality with the Capitalist world achieved by the Socialist countries serves as a factor which restrains the aspirations of aggressive forces. Calculations about shaking this equality are doomed to failure. Military equality at the lowest possible levels of weapons is the constructive approach taken by the Soviet Union toward nuclear disarmament in the interest of all peoples.

As was noted in the CPSU Central Committee Political Report to the 27th Party Congress, the current level of the balance of nuclear capabilities on the opposing sides is immeasurably high. So far it is ensuring equal danger for each of the sides. But only so far. Continuation of the nuclear arms race will unavoidably increase this equal danger and may bring it to such levels that it will cease being a factor for military and political restraint. Consequently, it is necessary first of all to greatly reduce the level of military confrontation.

The imperialist states, led by the United States, are carrying out a diametrically opposite policy. Whereas the Socialist countries are striving with all of their efforts to give a second breath to detente, the enemies of peace, who are carrying out a counteroffensive against detente, have made and are making their main strike primarily against force equality, and are trying to destroy it to their advantage.

Let us speak frankly. At present the number of strategic launchers on the two sides is practically unchanged by comparison with 1979. The Soviet Union has 2,504 and the United States has 2,215. It is clear from these figures that the USSR has somewhat more launchers. But, on the other hand, the U. S. continues to have an advantage in the number of warheads, owing to heavy bombers with long-range cruise missiles.

Nuclear equality between the USSR and the U. S. is made up not only of Soviet and American strategic weapons. U. S. intermediate range nuclear weapons, create, as is known, a threat to the territory of the USSR and its allies. They include forward based weapons and new first strike missiles (Pershing-2 ballistic missiles and land based cruise missiles). These weapons are in Western Europe. Moreover, NATO has corresponding British and French nuclear weapons in this region.

Everyone understands that in response to the strengthening of NATO nuclear forces in Europe, the Soviet Union is forced, in addition to nuclear-capable aircraft, to deploy in the European part of the USSR (and not on foreign territories!) its own intermediate range nuclear missiles; not, however, disrupting the correlation of forces in the region to its advantage.

If one analyzes the existing data which characterize the current correlation of intermediate range nuclear forces in the European region, one can speak about approximate equality in this category of nuclear weapons as well.

And one can only regret that, in its illusory desire to achieve military superiority over the USSR, the United States is not ceasing attempts to disrupt force equality to its advantage, and has now chosen space as its sphere of confrontation, striving to place strike weapons there in the hope of "outstripping" the USSR.

Today, in connection with the publication of large-scale new Soviet initiatives, a number of bourgeois newspapers in the West are trying to assess them as a sign of the "weakness" of the Soviet Union, which, they say, has nothing with which to respond adequately to the American SDI [strategic defense initiative] and will probably "lag behind" the U. S. in competition in the field of space technology. But it is necessary to know and remember the lessons of history. The USSR cannot overlook the frankly militaristic U. S. policy to further the arms race, or its attempt to shift it into space.

"One must not today, in the nuclear-space era," stated M. S. Gorbachev in a speech on Soviet television, "think in the categories of the past." The question is about the existence of mankind. The Soviet Union will make every effort to ensure universal security.

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CSO: 5200/1346

13 June 1986

SALT/START ISSUES

USSR: REAGAN TO BREAK SALT II WITH CRUISE MISSILES ON B-52'S

TIME Magazine Cited

LD120640 Moscow TASS in English 0624 GMT 12 May 86

[Text] New York, May 12, TASS--As is reported by the weekly TIME, the Reagan administration has taken a decision to break the unratified SALT-2 Treaty.

President Reagan, the weekly wrote, sent "a confidential letter to West European leaders," declaring his "intention to break the SALT-2 Treaty later this year as the Airforce increases the number of B-52 heavy bombers outfitted with nuclear-tipped cruise missiles," and thus exceed the limit set by the SALT-2 Treaty. The weekly reported that the letter was discussed last week at the meeting of leaders of seven capitalist countries in Tokyo, and that U.S. allies were upset.

Reagan "promised to take their views into account when the matter is discussed at another National Security Council meeting, perhaps this week. Abandoning SALT-2 would be a blow" to the Soviet-American arms control talks that resumed in Geneva, TIME admitted.

Would 'Poison' Geneva Climate

LD121420 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1232 GMT 12 May 86

[Excerpts] Moscow, 12 May (TASS)--TASS observer on military issues Vladimir Chernyshev writes:

The U.S. administration, judging by everything, has decided to break the SALT II Treaty. According to the U.S. weekly TIME, the head of the White House has sent a "confidential letter" to leaders of West European states, in which he has informed them of his "intention to violate the SALT II Treaty later this year," when the number of heavy bombers equipped with cruise missiles will exceed the limit established by the treaty.

As is known, Article 5 of the treaty limits launching installations for ICBM's fitted with MIRVed, ballistic missiles of the "air-surface" class, fitted with MIRV's, as well as heavy bombers fitted for cruise missiles with a range of more than 600 km, to a total not exceeding 1320 units.

Thus, having earlier adopted the tactics of "slipping out of the treaty," the U.S. leadership is now preparing to reject it openly. This is evidence of the fact that opponents of detente, ardent "hawks" who are fulfilling the demands formulated by ultra-right-wing circles in the United States, are increasingly gaining the upper hand in the administration. Let us remember how, last year, when the U.S. President was on his way to the Soviet-U.S. summit meeting in Geneva, the world got to know of the U.S. defense secretary's letter, which entreated him not to agree to any accords with the USSR that may confirm the treaties on strategic arms limitation and on antimissile defense. The demand to reject the SALT II Treaty has more than once been also put forward by the "ideological headquarters" of the right-wing circles--"The Heritage Foundation."

Official Washington's intention is also evidence of something else--of the fact that notwithstanding the notes of demonstrative love of peace in its statements, the practical policy of the current administration in relation to treaties and agreements over the whole period of its government has not undergone any positive change. The White House, evidently, continues to follow that program statement made by the U.S. President in May 1981: "The discussion, if it is conducted in the administration, will be conducted around the issue of how to make weapons and not about whether we should reject arms for the sake of treaties and agreements."

Certain circles in the United States are unhappy with the SALT II Treaty because it is based on the principle of equality and equal security and limits U.S. arms buildup programs by preventing them from developing to their full extent. The aim behind the refusal to observe SALT II is quite clear--to begin destroying the system of treaties and agreements in order to open the way to an unbridled arms race and to attempt to realize the illusory dream of achieving superiority over the Soviet Union. No less obvious is the fact that if the U.S. administration takes this path, which will be ruinous for the cause of detente and disarmament, then after SALT II a similar fate will await the ABM Treaty, which is already becoming a serious obstacle to the U.S. "star wars" program.

Yet it is these two treaties together with the provisional agreement on certain measures in the area of limiting strategic strike weapons concluded in 1972 which regulate Soviet-U.S. relations in the sphere of strategic weapons. Sabotage of the positive progress previously achieved in the area of restraining the arms race would, without doubt, poison the climate at the Soviet-U.S. talks on nuclear and space weapons under way in Geneva and would cause a sharp deterioration both in Soviet-U.S. relations and in the international situation as a whole.

The U.S. administration must not delude itself that it will be allowed to determine, by its own arbitrary will, which obligations it will observe and which not. To expect the other side to fall in with such a policy on the part of the United States is a dangerous delusion. He who in his actions continues to be guided by such calculations rather than by common sense and by a realistic approach will bear full responsibility for the serious consequences to peace.

U.S. Rejects 'Pledges'

LD122310 Moscow World Service in English 2010 GMT 12 May 86

[Yuriy Solton commentary]

The SALT II Treaty put on record the military and strategic parity between the Soviet Union and the United States. It provides for tough, quantitative and qualitative restrictions on nuclear weapons, the most powerful type of arms.

The United States has failed to ratify the treaty, but the Reagan administration in May 1982 said that it would comply with its provisions in practice. The promise did not last long. As soon as the work on the administration's military program came in conflict with the treaty, Washington started making inroads upon it.

The production begins of long-range cruise missiles. Pershing-2 and Tomahawk missiles, which are strategic arms in relation to the Soviet Union, are deployed in Western Europe. The MX missile is developed. Orders are issued to develop another two types of intercontinental missile. All this has been done in violation of SALT II.

The United States is going to start sea trials on the 20th of a new submarine armed with Trident-1 ballistic missiles. To remain within the limit allowed by the treaty, the United States is supposed to scrape two (?) -type submarines. The Pentagon is against this. TIME magazine has now reported that President Reagan in a confidential letter to West European leaders says he is going to stop complying with SALT II later this year, when the number of B-52 strategic bombers armed with cruise missiles rises above the limit set by the treaty.

TIME magazine rightly says that the American administration's refusal to continue to honor the treaty would damage Soviet-American negotiations in Geneva. The United States is going to make a stab in the back using the campaign of slander over the accident at the Chernobyl nuclear power plant as a cover.

One is bound to ask at least two questions. How can the administration's readiness to drop SALT II be reconciled with its pronounced intention to seek a stop to the arms race on earth and prevent it from spreading to outer space. Can Washington be trusted at all in such an important matter as nuclear disarmament at a time when it has remorselessly gone back on its own pledges?

Reagan Informed Summit Leaders

LD131548 Moscow in English to North America 2300 GMT 12 May 86

[Text] TIME magazine reported on Sunday that President Reagan had tentatively decided to breach the Strategic Arms Limitation Treaty by December. Here are some details.

According to the TIME story, Ronald Reagan told the Tokyo summit participants that more B-52 bombers would be converted to carry nuclear-tipped cruise missiles, putting the number over the treaty's limit of 1,320 by the end of the year. Reacting to strong protests from the other Western leaders, the American President promised to take their views into account before the final decision was made. The SALT II Treaty was signed in 1979 in Vienna, Austria, but has never been ratified by the United States. The treaty contained a protocol concerning long-range cruise missiles of various (?basing modes). If SALT II were ratified by the United States these long-range cruise missiles would be banned, making it impossible for the Pentagon to deploy thousands of low-flying, accurate and hard to detect Tomahawks. They've been already deployed in Western Europe on naval vessels such as the battleships New Jersey and Missouri and with several squadrons of strategic B-52 bombers.

There have been several occasions when Washington was confronted with the dilemma of whether to observe the provisions of SALT II or breach them. All of them dealt with nuclear powered submarines. All the subs with the Poseidon missiles had to be scrapped to allow the commissioning of new subs of the Trident type. To be sure, the Reagan administration and the Pentagon have never had much respect for the SALT II Treaty. Their consent to abide by it was dictated by financial considerations. It has turned out that the upkeep costs of old submarines are so high that it makes no sense to keep them in service. However, with long-range cruise missiles the situation appears to be different. They are much cheaper to build and much easier to deploy in substantial numbers than any other nuclear arms. And so to, to hell with SALT II. There is yet another reason why the Reagan administration is against restraint in the military field. Its star wars program is well under way. Billions of dollars have been spent on some of its components.

Two types of lasers are expected to be ready for testing in the early 1990's.

An arms race in space will most certainly destroy the previous accords in arms control and unleash an uncontrollable race in all types of weapons. Being well aware of this, the White House has no qualms about putting its allies (?on notice). And this is exactly what President Reagan did in Tokyo when he informed the summit about his tentative decision to breach the SALT II Treaty.

U.S. officials figure out that with time the initial anger in London, Rome and some other capitals will subside, and the violation of SALT II by the United States will be accepted as an accomplished fact. Should this happen, will all of us, the United States included, be in trouble? Yes. Do they care about this in Washington? No.

U.S. Motives Questioned

LD141025 Moscow in English to North America 2300 GMT 13 May 86

[Text] There was no reaction from the White House to a story in TIME magazine concerning the Reagan administration's tentative decision to breach the provisions of the SALT II Treaty by the end of this year. According to TIME, President Reagan sent a confidential letter to a group of Western leaders in-

forming them of the decision to go beyond the treaty ceiling by adding more strategic B-52 bombers armed with long-range cruise missiles to the existing fleet. The confidential letter was discussed at the Tokyo summit earlier this month, and according to TIME magazine there were very strong objections from Margaret Thatcher and several other leaders. Whether or not these objections will be taken into account is not quite clear.

Consultations at such a high level on whether or not to honor SALT II suggests that the previous arms control accords between the United States and the Soviet Union stand in the way of the current American military build-up. Being an impediment, these accords have to be thrown away, violated, scrapped, or discarded. Here is an example. The Pentagon wants to build and deploy thousands of long-range cruise missiles around the Soviet Union's perimeter. As a matter of fact this program has been under way for some time already. This being the case, how can there be any faith in arms control in the White House?

We are told that the administration's most burning desire is to make the nukes obsolete and redundant, and that is what star wars is all about. But then they take a World War II battleship out of the mothballs, spend many millions modernizing it and equipping it with nuclear-tipped cruise missiles. Is this making the nukes obsolete? Or take the U.S. Air Force. Apparently not content with two new types of strategic bombers that are coming up, the Pentagon seeks to make the fullest possible use of its aging fleet of B-52's by fitting more and more of them with those long-range cruise missiles. Is this getting rid of the nukes? To have more of everything--bombers, submarines and ballistic missiles in addition to strike space weapons, such is the perverted logic of the U.S. administration in making our planet a safer place to live in.

'Concern' Among Allies

LD131836 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1500 GMT 13 May 86

[Commentary by political observer Aleksandr Zholkver]

[Text] In June 1979 I had occasion to witness the signing of an important agreement at the Soviet-American summit meeting in Vienna which is called for short SALT II. It is true that even then, certain of my U.S. colleagues who had gathered for the festive ceremony in the Vienna Hofburg Palace warned: SALT II will hardly be ratified by the United States since the military industrial complex sees it as a threat to its business.

These predictions have been fulfilled. The treaty has not even been presented to the Senate for approval. However, because of the popularity of the idea of disarmament throughout the world, including among the American public, Washington did not risk simply renouncing the Vienna accords and announced that the treaty, although unratified, would be observed by the United States. It is true that all this time SALT II has been a thorn in the flesh of American military industrialists, and they have been striving in all possible ways to get rid of it. Sometimes they expatiated on the treaty's imperfection and sometimes they accused the Soviet Union of violating it.

Meanwhile, the very idea of arms limitation was being undermined. And now that Washington has openly begun to implement a strategy of neoglobalism--from the bombings of Libyan cities to the stepped-up production of nuclear and space weapons--the present U.S. administration evidently considers it possible to finally discard the SALT-II Treaty too. In any case, as TIME magazine has reported, it was decided at a secret conference of the U.S. National Security Council to violate that treaty, in particular concerning number of cruise missiles. Appropriate plans, as TIME also points out, were expounded to the participants of the recent Rokyoo conference of the Big Seven.

It is true that, as is noted for example in the West German press, these plans gave rise to no small degree of concern even among the closest U.S. allies. FRG Chancellor Kohl is even alleged to have sent a special message to President Reagan calling upon him not to violate SALT II. Of course, it is difficult to contemplate that Washington will in this case--as in all other ones--listen to the opinion of its partners. However, for the sake of fairness it is worthwhile asking the question: In connection with the Chernobyl accident, Washington has expatiated a great deal about the crisis of trust in international relations. But what trust is there at all when the Washington administration both practically, and now evidently also formally, breaks off a very important treaty under which stands the signature of the President of the United States?

Claims of Soviet Violations

OW140549 Moscow Television Service in Russian 0200 GMT 14 May 86

[From the "Novosti" newscast; Sergey Alekseyev commentary]

[Text] According to information received, the U.S. administration intends to tear up the SALT II agreement. Our commentator:

[Alekseyev] Hello, comrades: Let me remind you that in 1979 this agreement on limiting strategic offensive weapons was reached and signed between the USSR and the United States. There was a stipulation to reduce existing nuclear weapons, and restrictions were placed on modernizing old and building new weapons, and so on. I will not enumerate all the agreement's articles and rules. They are as well known as the deep satisfaction and sincere approval with which the whole world greeted these points.

But in the United States, from the very beginning, serious hurdles were placed in the path of SALT II. Under the pressure of the influential military, the agreement was not ratified by the U.S. Congress. With the coming to power of the present administration talk could be heard on the failure of the agreement, which supposedly gives a one-sided advantage to the Russians.

However, no decision to completely abandon SALT II was made. This is understandable. U.S. foreign policy would have been presented to the whole world as ugly as it continues to postulate its receptiveness and unchanging peaceable disposition and so on. Moreover, such an understanding gave birth to a new propaganda move. In essence, while breaking the rules or teetering on the verge of breaking a number of the agreement's articles, Washington began acting in the following manner: To start with, the needs of the Pentagon were determined and which particular article prevented the Pentagon from arming itself, for example so as to acquire a new long-range cruise missile.

Later, a suitable analogue was picked out of the Soviet arsenal. This was followed by the next stage: the selection of so-called arguments that are supposed to prove that the Soviet Union is the transgressor.

All this was supposed to have planted the seeds of doubt as to the honesty of the Soviet side. However, it became difficult, if not impossible, for Washington to hide its true attitudes toward SALT II and its open desire for an arms buildup by means of propaganda tricks. There is no other way of explaining the candid admission in the U.S. President's recent letter to the leaders of the Western countries: We intend to break the SALT II agreement later this year when the number of U.S. B-52 bombers, equipped with cruise missiles carrying nuclear warheads, will exceed the limits established by the agreement.

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CSO: 5200/1374

SALT/START ISSUES

TASS APRIL-MAY REPORTS ON U.S. DEPLOYMENTS

B-52's on Guam

LD252236 Moscow TASS in English 2156 GMT 25 Apr 86

[Text] New York, April 25, TASS--The United Nations secretariat took note of the dangerous character of the Pentagon's nuclear preparations on the Island of Guam. Even now, as is clear from the report published by the secretariat, 368 nuclear warheads are deployed there.

The 43d wing of the Strategic Air Force is stationed at Andersen Air Force base with its permanently deployed nuclear-capable strategic bombers B-52.

The Third Air Division carries out operations in the region of the Pacific Ocean west of the international date line, as well as in the Far East and in South-East Asia.

Air Force Cited on MX

LD090724 Moscow TASS in English 0649 GMT 9 May 86

[Text] Washington, May 9, TASS--As Thomas Cooper, assistant to the secretary of the Air Force, has said at hearings in the U.S. Senate, it is being planned to bring into service the first MX intercontinental ballistic missile already in September this year. In all, 10 such first-strike missiles will be deployed before the end of 1986. The ranking Pentagon spokesman also pointed out that a full-scale development of the mobile-based intercontinental ballistic missile Midgetman would be started in the 1987 fiscal year. A sum of \$1,400 million is being asked for the purposes.

MX in Wyoming

LD202124 Moscow TASS in English 2308 GMT 20 May 86

[Text] New York, May 20, TASS--The first fully fitted out MX missile will be deployed at its silo in the south of the Wyoming state within the next 30 days, informed USAF representatives. AP dispatch indicates in this context that all in all, it is planned to deploy in Wyoming 50 such ICBM's with 10 independently targetable warheads. Political analysts write that construction and deployment of these missiles are a part of the Reagan administration's general course for strengthening the nuclear first-strike potential.

MX Test in California

LD212156 Moscow TASS in English 2143 GMT 21 May 86

[Text] San Francisco, May 22, TASS—Another test launch of the MX intercontinental ballistic missile has been conducted off the Vandenberg Air Force base, California. According to a spokesman of the U.S. Air Force, the test was a success. The launch was conducted in conditions resembling to the maximum those of the battlefield. The missile was fitted out with 10 unloaded warheads. The creation and deployment of first-strike missiles is the cornerstone of the large-scale program of the so-called 'rearmament of America' announced by the U.S. administration.

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CSO: 5200/1374

SALT/START ISSUES

PAPER REPORTS ON U.S. DEVELOPMENT OF NUCLEAR ASW SYSTEM

PM141301 Moscow SOTSIALISTICHESKAYA INDUSTRIYA in Russian 6 Apr 86 p 3

[TASS report: "Pentagon's Nuclear Gifts"]

[Text] Washington, 5 Apr--The Pentagon has secretly begun creating [sozdaniye] a new type of nuclear weapon for use by the U.S. Navy. This news was obtained by the well-informed WASHINGTON POST.

The newspaper reports that the matter concerns the development [razrabotka] of a new antisubmarine warfare [ASW] system equipped with a nuclear or neutron warhead. It takes the form of a missile launched from a surface ship which enters the water at a set point and explodes, like a depth charge, destroying the enemy submarine. The Pentagon has requested \$47 million in fiscal 1987 for the creation [sozdaniye] of this weapon. Overall, the production of the 1,000 missiles demanded by the U.S. Navy will work out at \$2 billion, according to the estimates of the main accounting agency.

Addressing Congressional hearings, U.S. Navy Secretary J. Lehman admitted that his department plans to replace the existing antisubmarine weapon by his new ASW system. Furthermore, he refused to give any guarantees in this context that the United States will not be first to use this new type of nuclear weapon.

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CSO: 5200/1374

SALT/START ISSUES

SOVIET MILITARY JOURNAL DISCUSSES U.S. STEALTH PROGRAM

Moscow ZARUBEZHNOYE VOYENNOYE OBOZRENIYE in Russian No 11, Nov 85 (Signed to press 11 Nov 85) pp 49-51

[Article by Col F. Daitriyev, Candidate of Technical Sciences; "Work on the U.S. Stealth Program"]

[Text] One of the characteristic peculiarities of the arms race, unleashed by the militaristic circles of the USA and the NATO bloc, is the planning for the qualitative improvement of the means of armed conflict in the distant future. According to NATO strategists' plans, this presumes the use in weapons and military equipment of future methods and resources, based both on the assimilated achievements of scientific progress, and on those which are at the present time in the conceptual stage of development. In this case, Western military experts consider that such an approach allows military-technical ideas based on new material capabilities and discoveries during basic and applied research, and not occurring in the past because of their technical unfeasibility, to be fully implemented.

The STEALTH program--a program to develop aircraft, pilotless vehicles and cruise missiles which are difficult to detect by radioelectronic and infrared air defense systems--relates to the specific measures of the Pentagon in this sphere, and widely discussed in the foreign press.

Work on the program began in 1977, but recently received a new impetus in connection with the missions assigned to the U.S. Air Force to provide, in the 1990's, effective strikes by tactical aviation through the entire depth of the TVD. Thus, as can be judged by foreign press materials, it was considered that solving this problem by improving airborne electronic warfare (EW) systems by using the significant achievements emerging in the realm of radar and infrared technology will not be successful. In particular, it was determined by U.S. and NATO military specialists that such EW systems as anti-radiation reflectors and radioelectronic suppression devices which radiate noise and multiplex pulse interference signals would be practically ineffective in the 1990's. It is considered that their operations would be neutralized almost completely by the employment of phased-array type antennas; improved moving target indicators; modes for the rapid shift (from pulse to pulse) of the carrier frequency and the frequency of the return pulses, etc. Thanks to the emergence of new multi-spectral aircraft infrared detection systems, the

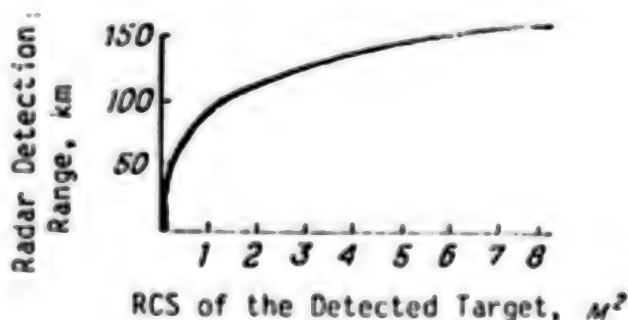
effectiveness of existing and future IR interference and decoys have been significantly reduced.

It is noted in the foreign press that precisely the above noted circumstances forced American developers of aviation equipment to recall the experience acquired by Lockheed during the development of the U-2 and especially the SR-71 spy plane. It is reported that the primary directions in the firm's work, to reduce the degree of these aircrafts' detectability, was preserved in the STEALTH program: the reduction in the intensity of the power plant's infrared radiation and a decrease in the airframe's radar cross section (RCS). At the same time, questions regarding a further increase in the effectiveness of the operations of EW systems were addressed for this program. In addition, other possibilities for aircraft to overcome future enemy air defense systems were researched within its limits.

The greatest efforts were launched within the area of reducing the radar detectability of an airborne vehicle by decreasing its RCS. It is especially emphasized in the foreign press that an effective reduction in the detectability of aircraft by air defense radar systems can be sufficiently achieved only with a significant decrease in RCS. This conclusion is based on the following dependence between the range of operations of a typical radar (R) and magnitude of the RCS (σ) of its detected aerial target: $R = (k\sigma)^{1/4}$. It is presented graphically in Figure 1. It is evident from the graphic that with a 30-percent decrease in the RCS, the range is reduced by 16 percent, and with a

Figure 1.

Graph Showing Radar Range as a Function of an Aircraft's Radar Cross Section (RCS).



75-percent decrease in the RCS, range is reduced by 29 percent. This shows that with a sharp decrease in RCS, the enemy's air defense radar's operating range of operations can become so short that the aircraft is considered to be practically invisible if, while overcoming the air defenses it will remain at a fixed distance from the radar the entire time, including flight at high altitudes. Is it possible to achieve this? American military specialists, working on the STEALTH program answer this question affirmatively and cite the example of the B-52 and B-1A, the geometric dimensions of which (length, height, wing span) differ by approximately 10 percent, but their RCS differs almost by a factor of 10 (100 m^2 for the B-52 and 10 m^2 for the B-1A at a wave length of 10 cm). But this is not the limit. Statements of separate aviation equipment developers concerning the possibility to increase the RCS of future aircraft to hundredths of a square meter and less, appear in the Western press.

Judging by foreign press reports, at the present time, work in the U.S. to decrease the RCS of airborne vehicles is being conducted along the following principal lines:

--Perfecting the frame configuration. It presumes, in particular, the potential decrease in the surface area, the elimination of surface intersections, especially 90° angles, the replacement of planes with curved surfaces, and also the emergence and elimination of resonating components, the length of which are multiple half-wave lengths of the radar signals illuminating the aircraft.

--The assimilation of manufacturing technology and the processing of composite materials, which do not reflect electromagnetic energy, in order to use them to replace traditional materials used in aircraft construction.

--The development of highly effective coatings which absorb or scatter radar signals' electromagnetic energy.

It is believed that by realizing the first of these directions, it will be extremely difficult to achieve a compromise between the aircraft's shape, having a minimum RCS, and satisfactory flight characteristics. It is planned to solve this problem by the wide use of computer-aided design. The effectiveness of such design methods can be illustrated by the following example. The American B-52 STRATO FORTRESS and F-4 PHANTOM aircraft were developed ignoring the requirements to reduce the RCS, and its magnitude is equal to 100 and 5 m² respectively. The F-14 TOMCAT and F-15 EAGLE fighters were developed considering such a requirement, and their RCS is around 3 m². The F-16 FIGHTING FALCON and the B-1A stemmed from the greatest possible reduction in RCS during the design stage, and this specification is 1.7 and 10 m² for them.

A still more interesting example is the experience acquired in reducing the RCS of the B-1B bomber. The foreign press reports that on this aircraft, because the radioelectronic defensive system antenna, located in the vertical stabilizer, was replaced with an antenna built into the fuselage, the curvature of the leading edge of the wing panels was changed, and the air intake sections were improved, the B-1B's RCS was reduced to 1 m². As a result of computer computations, numerous aspect models of the prospective aircraft, designed using the achievements in STEALTH technology, were constructed.

The second direction to reduce the RCS is the employment of new non-metallic construction materials, so-called composites. American military experts consider that in the future, 50 percent (by weight) of the elements, components and units of flying systems will be manufactured by them. Their insufficient strength especially fatigue, and in a number of instances, the high manufacturing and processing cost is hindering the U.S. aviation industry from rapidly assimilating these materials.

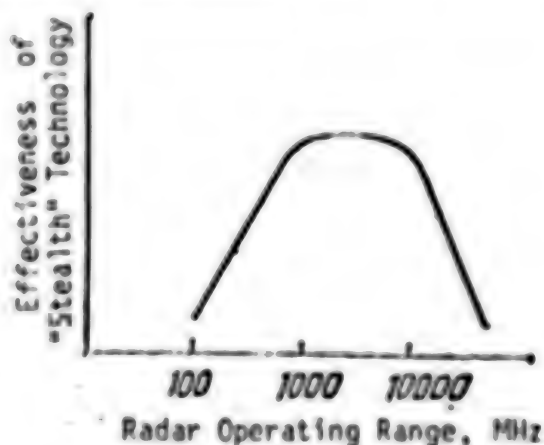
It is noted in the Western press that in recent years, within the realm of perfecting antiradar coatings, considerable successes have been achieved in the expansion of their frequency band and reduction in specific weight. It is reported, in particular, that the development of coatings 2.5 mm thick, provide an absorption of radar signals with a wave length from 2.3 to 3.6 cm by 10 dB.

According to estimates of foreign specialists, this halves the operational range of such radars. A special problem is considered to be the coatings' insufficient heat resistance that leads to their burning up at super and hypersonic speeds, and a high friction coefficient. It is believed that it will be impossible to achieve, in the near future, a sharp reduction in the specific weight of the materials used in the coatings. Therefore, it is not intended to put them on the entire surface of the aircraft (except for special reconnaissance aircraft), but only on those parts of the frame which strongly influence the over-all RCS.

In a number of foreign publications, an opinion regarding the limitation of possibilities to decrease the RCS is being expressed. The authors of these articles think that STEALTH technology will be the most effective only against those ground radars most widely deployed at the present time. For example, Figure 2 is a graph showing the dependence of this technology's effectiveness on the radar's operating frequency. The graph's form is explained in the following manner. At frequencies near 30 MHz, the RCS will increase sharply, since the entire airframe, equal to a length of approximately 10 meters, approaches the radar's resonant frequency, and the "smoothness" in the surface junctions scarcely affect the magnitude of the REC at these frequencies of more than 10 GHz, any unevenness in the airframe begins to act like angled reflectors, which is all the more difficult to eliminate.

Figure 2.

Graph Showing the Effectiveness of STEALTH Technology as a Function of Radar Operating Frequency.



On the basis of these considerations, foreign specialists concluded that radars, as before, should remain the primary means for air surveillance, and therefore their essential improvement is required, especially in the realm of expanding the frequency range, the adoption of automated systems and the joining of a number of radars into a net with the simultaneous organization of information exchange between them in digital form.

The reduction in the intensity of IR radiation is primarily considered with respect to the aircraft's engines since the aerodynamic heating of the airframe, even at very high speeds, is considered to be inconsequential from the point of view of its detection by IR systems. For example, with a speed of $M=0.9$, the greatest heating of the airframe does not exceed 50°C . However, for hypersonic speed aircraft, it is necessary to consider the cooling of their sheathing.

For the engines, an effective method is considered to be the use of various types of screens, covering their hottest parts and putting various gaseous mixtures into the exhaust, which decrease the intensity of IR radiation or change its spectrum. In so doing, they are trying to preclude or reduce the degree of IR radiation in the most widely utilized missile guidance heads in the 3-5 mkm wave band.

The task of screening IR radiation has turned out to be highly complex since, during the development of the screens, it was necessary to consider their influence on the aircraft's aerodynamic properties and the potential increase in its RCS. One of the solutions in this area is believed to be the proposal to use moveable screens in the air intakes and engine nozzles.

Judging by foreign press reports, the work on the STEALTH program not only does not exclude the process of perfecting EW devices, but on the contrary, adds several new dimensions to it. The first consequence of adopting the program was the U.S. Defense Department's requirement to abandon suspended containers for aircraft radioelectronic suppression equipment in favor of equipment built into the fuselage. The second aspect is, the incorporation of phased array antennas into EW equipment. And finally, it is believed that future EW systems' combat capabilities can be increased sufficiently easily, as new systems belonging to the likely enemy appear.

This fact speaks to the complexity of work on the STEALTH program. In 1982, the English firm Ferranti reported that it had developed a method for the automatic system analysis of radiotechnical and weather reconnaissance data on board the aircraft for overcoming air defenses and for the purpose of determining anomalies in the propagation of radar signals. The results of such analysis can be used by the aircraft's crew for secret flight through the radar's operating zone. Specialists of the firm state that although they employ such a method under specific weather conditions, its utilization in combination with other resources and methods can significantly increase the effectiveness in overcoming air defenses.

The STEALTH program is a clear example of the aggressive trends in the development of science and technology in imperialistic countries. The stakes of taking the lead in one of these highly expensive fields to perfect the means of armed conflict costs the American taxpayers, according to the acknowledgement of the foreign press, an enormous sum, assessed by various sources to be from \$1 to \$10 billion. At the same time, according to many foreign specialists, the STEALTH program, as any other attempt to develop the "absolute" weapon, cannot justify all the hopes which the Pentagon places on it.

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CSO: 5200/1374

INTERMEDIATE-RANGE NUCLEAR FORCES

MOSCOW HITS ROGERS COMMENT ON INF REDUCTIONS

LD131154 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0630 GMT 13 May 86

[Viktor Levin Commentary]

[Text] Supreme Allied Commander of NATO troops in Europe, the U.S. General Rogers, in an interview with the West German newspaper WESTDEUTSCHE ALLGEMEINE, has demanded of the United States' partners an increase in their contribution to the West's military efforts. Answering a question about the Soviet peace proposals, Rogers called them propaganda. Here is Viktor Levin at the microphone.

[Levin] Rogers' interview with the WESTDEUTSCHE ALLGEMEINE newspaper does not sparkle with originality--that is, not to speak at all of its conclusiveness. But nevertheless there is one revelation in it which in my view deserves attention. This is the matter of the position of a high-ranking U.S. general on the question of reduction of medium-range nuclear weapons. It is known that the Soviet Union has put forward new proposals aimed at fully ridding the whole European continent of these weapons. These proposals take into account those ideas which were earlier expressed by the United States. In Western Europe the Soviet initiative has provoked huge interest and has been assessed highly, but the United States is clearly trying to get out of answering them. In these conditions the West German newspaper put the question straight to Rogers as to whether he sees a real prospect for ridding Europe of medium-range nuclear weapons. In his answer--and I quote word for word from the WESTDEUTSCHE ALLGEMEINE--the general is raising the stakes to an almost unreachable level. Specifically, this is what he said: If the Soviet Union scraps its operational-tactical missiles in addition to the SS-20 missiles, if it shows its readiness to go for substantial balanced reduction of conventional armed forces, then in that case--as I think--said Rogers, we could seriously think about eliminating Pershing-11 and Cruise missiles. In other words, let the Soviet Union, says the supreme commander of NATO troops, disarm unilaterally, and we in NATO will consider what to do later after this.

The WESTDEUTSCHE ALLGEMEINE, as I have already said, thinks that Rogers is raising the stakes to an almost unattainable level. I think it has been put rather lightly: more precisely, he has set them so high that it would be impossible to top the stakes. The U.S. general does not even want to hear of any real reduction in weapons--that is the essence of his answer. And this is by no means the personal opinion of Rogers alone: this is precisely how they think in Washington.

INTERMEDIATE-RANGE NUCLEAR FORCES

IZVESTIYA CRITICIZES NATO SCG STATEMENT

PM091014 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 8 May 86 Morning Edition p 4

[Report by own correspondent V. Antonov: "NATO: The Same Old Ragbag"]

[Text] Brussels--A NATO Special Consultative Group (SCG) session has been held at North Atlantic bloc headquarters in Evere.

A communique circulated here notes that the session was devoted to a discussion of problems pertaining to medium-range nuclear armaments in Europe in connection with the latest round of the Soviet-U.S. nuclear and space armaments talks starting in Geneva.

Numerous foreign journalists assembled at a press conference in Evere after the SCG session and tried to get the organizers to provide specific clarification of the NATO allies' position on the matter. But once again they were presented with unfounded theses about the United States and its Atlantic partners allegedly seeking "constructive dialogue" at the talks, whereas the USSR is apparently not interested in achieving mutually acceptable solutions.

It is clear from what A. Holmes, director of the U.S. State Department Bureau of Politico-Military Affairs, who chaired the SCG session, said, that the U.S. side intends to stick to the so-called "zero option" in the Geneva talks on medium-range missiles. That option is backed by the NATO allies and envisages effectively eliminating Soviet nuclear facilities on the USSR's European territory while keeping a considerable part of the U.S. nuclear missile arsenal in Western Europe. He said, in particular, that no new elements have appeared in the U.S. position on the eve of the resumption of the talks. In other words, the U.S. delegation is going to Geneva with the same old ragbag of proposals that have already been rejected by the Soviet Union in that they violate the principle of the sides' equality and identical security.

The unconstructive approach by the United States and its Atlantic partners to the problem of reaching concrete accords is also evidenced by the fact that the NATO countries' representatives in the SCG have reaffirmed the need to continue the planned deployment of U.S. medium-range nuclear missiles in Western Europe. As A. Homes noted, the Pentagon has completed the deployment of 108 Pershing-2 missiles in the FRG, as envisaged by the NATO plan. At the same time, the deployment of cruise missiles is in full swing at air bases in Britain, the FRG, Belgium, and Italy.

The SCG session in Evere graphically revealed the true tasks assigned to it by the United States and NATO. Basically they consist in misleading the West's true aims in the nuclear arms control sphere by trying to justify the Atlanticists' adherence to the dangerous course of building up military preparations in Western Europe.

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CSO: 5200/1372

INTERMEDIATE-RANGE NUCLEAR FORCES

TASS CRITICIZES UK GOVERNMENT 'WHITE PAPER' ON DEFENSE

LD131004 Moscow TASS in English 0935 GMT 13 May 86

[Text] London, May 13, TASS--TASS correspondent Nikolay Pakhamov reports:

The British Conservative government, following in the wake of Washington's aggressive policy, continues to increase military expenditures and step up militarist preparations. A record-high sum--almost 18,500 million pounds sterling--is to be allocated for the British military establishment in the 1986-1987 financial year. This is stated in the government's "white paper" on defense expenditures. The compilers of the document which was issued here today stated that by the level of military expenditures Britain "is ahead of" all the other NATO partners, except the United States. Appropriations for the purposes have grown by 3,000 million pounds sterling as compared with the 1978-79 financial year when the Conservatives took office.

The "white paper" discourses a good deal about an "urgent necessity" to improve East-West relations and about a "firm commitment" of NATO countries, including Britain, to the cause of achieving progress at the arms control talks. However, behind this verbiage, there is a lack of London's desire to take concrete steps which would contribute to curbing the arms race, to lowering the level of military confrontation and to easing international tension.

The authors of the document emphasise that nuclear arms will remain an "integral part" of NATO's military strategy in the entire foreseeable future and that NATO also intends to go ahead with "upgrading conventional armed forces." The British Government has stated determination to go on "modernizing" its so-called "independent" nuclear deterrent force. The "white paper" expresses support for the U.S. obstructionist stand at the Soviet-U.S. talks in Geneva on nuclear and space arms, and simultaneously rejects the constructive Soviet peace initiatives on the plea that their realisation would ostensibly "keep Soviet superiority" in the military field. The document contains untenable allusions to the "difficulty of verification problems" to justify the USA's and Britain's refusal to follow the USSR's example and to take constructive steps toward banning all nuclear explosions and eliminating the stocks of chemical arms. The British Government has reaffirmed its intention to continue to participate in the implementation of Washington's space militarisation plans.

As is clear from the "white paper," the British Government continues to go on faithfully meeting its "commitment" within NATO framework. The "white paper" expresses support for the continued presence of the U.S. Armed Forces in British territory and for the deployment of new U.S. first-strike nuclear-missile weaponry in Western Europe. The Tory cabinet endeavours to justify its militarist course by alluding, as usual, to a mythical "Soviet threat" which has allegedly hung over the West. This hackneyed device which London has borrowed from Washington has long been used by the Tories to delude the public and to put facts upside down.

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CSO: 5200/1372

INTERMEDIATE-RANGE NUCLEAR FORCES

TASS HITS U.S.-JAPANESE MANEUVERS, CRUISE MISSILES

LD151722 Moscow TASS in English 1654 GMT 15 May 86

[Text] Moscow, May 15, TASS--TASS Political News Analyst Askold Biryukov writes:

The U.S. military do not cease efforts aimed at heightening tension in the Asian-Pacific region. As is reported from Tokyo, Washington has notified Japan of a decision to hold exercises of a naval task force led by the battleship New Jersey near Soviet shores in summer this year.

Escorted by 10 other ships, including a cruiser, the battleship armed with 32 Tomahawk cruise missiles and other up-to-date armament will set out from the port of Yokosuka, heading for one of the areas of the Sea of Japan, near the Soviet port of Vladivostok, where the exercises are to take place.

As has already been the case in the past, the U.S. administration, not limiting itself to holding the exercises of its own naval force near the Soviet shores, intends to draw Japanese Armed Forces into them. The Japanese ASAHI SHIMBUN newspaper points out that the United States insists on the holding of exercises in the Sea of Japan jointly with the ships and aircraft of the Japanese "Self-Defence Forces," the exercises which are regarded as a kind of 'reconnaissance in force'. One has to point out that in Japan's National Defense Agency one can find figures who would not mind playing up to the U.S. bellicose circles in staging yet another military provocation against the USSR. They, for example, are expressing the view that the Japanese "Self-Defence Forces" may "partially" take part in the exercises. ASAHI SHIMBUN admits that the exercises, in which the U.S. nuclear-tipped Tomahawk missiles are to play the role of a 'knife' put against the throat of the Soviet Union, are of extremely provocative character with regard to it.

The newspaper points out, in particular, that the Tomahawk missiles, having a range of 2,700 km, are quite capable of reaching areas deep in the interior of Siberia.

As it is seen, the U.S. military once again intend to put to test the strength of Soviet defences. It is not for the first year already that Washington stages its militarist shows near the Soviet Far East. THE LOS ANGELES TIMES newspaper pointed out in an editorial about an exercise codenamed "Fleetex" that that purpose of the exercise was to induce some reaction of Soviet submarines and aircraft 'so that it could be possible to evaluate the tactics and capabilities of the Russians in such situations'. Paul McCarthy, the commander

of the U.S. Pacific Fleet, for his part, confirms the aggressiveness of U.S. intentions in the area. He has stated, for example, that the forces under his authority are preparing for the blockading of international straits in the Far East and for combat patrolling of the Sea of Japan should the situation become complicated.

But, as is shown by U.S.-South Korean and U.S.-Japanese exercises and finally by multilateral military exercises held in the area one after another under U.S. aegis, it is precisely, the United States that complicates the situation there. It is the USA that encroaches upon the interests of the Soviet Union by making attempts to feel its borders now from the sea now from the air. It is the United States that stages a simulated 'military clash near Soviet waters'. The pilot of one of Phantom F-4 fighter bombers based on the aircraft carrier Midway has said about the simulation that that was the greatest approximation to real war that one can imagine. He said it seemed for him for a long time that that was not a simulated battle but a real one. Incidentally, it was precisely during that exercise that aircraft of the Japanese Air Force, fully armed with Sidewinder missiles, were made airborne for a 'demonstration of solidarity'.

In our nuclear age when the world is already sagging under the burden of 50,000 nuclear munitions made as of today, it is of particular importance to show mutual restraint and high responsibility and to prevent actions which could set into motion the entire potential which is ruinous to everything living on earth. The exercises which the United States is arranging with a possible participation of Japanese ships and aircraft lead in a diametrically opposite direction.

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INTERMEDIATE-RANGE NUCLEAR FORCES

SOVIET REPORTS ON FRENCH NUCLEAR SYSTEMS

New Missiles, Bombers

PM011048 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 30 Apr 86 Second Edition p 3

[V. Pustov article: "Changes Expected"]

[Excerpt] In connection with the new correlation of political forces in France and the creation of a government of representatives of right-wing parties, questions connected with building up and improving the might of the French Armed Forces are being discussed widely inside and outside the country. The prevailing opinion among observers is that France's stance with regard to the creation and targeting of nuclear arms, the so-called "European defense community," and the NATO bloc will not undergo any substantial changes.

It is expected that questions will be decided more promptly in favor of building a nuclear-powered aircraft carrier and creating a new Hades missile with a nuclear warhead and a range of more than 300 km. The present French Government, the American weekly DEFENSE NEWS writes, advocates replacing the single-charge, silo-housed S3 missiles and obsolescent Mirage IV bombers with a medium-range mobile Mirved ballistic missile.

According to a report in the newspaper L'HUMANITE, in May French strategic aircraft will be armed with the new ASMP missile that has a nuclear charge with a yield several times greater than that of the atom bomb which the Americans dropped on Hiroshima. This missile can also be equipped with a neutron or a chemical charge.

New Cruise Missile

LD111500 Moscow TASS in English 1916 GMT 9 May 86

[Text] Paris, May 9, TASS--A new nuclear-tipped medium-range cruise missile of the air-to-surface ASMP class was added to the French strategic forces.

The weapon, the yield of the nuclear warhead of which is 15 times that of the atomic bomb dropped by the USA on Hiroshima, is to be carried by the modified Mirage-4 bomber.

The new missile was developed under a broad program launched by France to modernize its nuclear force. This year about one-third of the total military budget of more than 158 billion francs will be used for the purpose. Last year France floated its sixth atomic-powered submarine carrying nuclear-tipped missiles and recently another atomic-powered submarine, the "Emeraude," was launched. According to the French press, work is going ahead full steam on the modernization of tactical nuclear weapons.

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INTERMEDIATE-RANGE NUCLEAR FORCES

TASS REPORTS ON DUTCH, BELGIAN DEVELOPMENT

Netherlands Readyng Facilities

LD110442 Moscow TASS in English 2021 GMT 10 Apr 86

[Text] The Hague, April 10, TASS--The ruling right-of-centre coalition in Holland is accelerating preparations for the deployment of 48 American cruise missiles in the country, scheduled for the autumn of 1988. A government spokesman has said that a decision had been made on the construction of a missile base near the town of Woendsrecht in the south of the country. Defence Minister Jacob de Ruiter has sent a letter to parliament officially informing it that the construction of launching pads, command posts, fuel storages and ammunition depots is to be started soon. This means transition to the realisation in practice of the American-Dutch agreement on the terms of deploying cruise missiles concluded despite protests by the progressive public and contrary to the will of the majority of the population.

Belgium Hopes for Agreement

LD121953 Moscow TASS in English 1616 GMT 12 May 86

[Text] Brussels, May 12, TASS--TASS correspondent Albert Balebanov reports:

Belgium's Minister of Foreign Affairs Leo Tindermanns in an interview to the Flemish newspaper STANDAARD has said, in reply to the question on prospects of attaining an agreement on medium-range missiles in Europe:

"Conclusion of an agreement on medium-range missiles is not impossible. I hope that this will take place yet before the fateful date for deployment of additional missiles in our country. There is a change witnessed in the USSR's stand. Yet until recently the Soviet Union considered it impossible to enact a separate agreement and demanded that a global agreement be concluded first. But some 'stumbling blocks' are still there: Soviet missiles deployed in Asia and independent nuclear forces of Britain and France. Some specialists believe that we cannot withdraw missiles since the USSR has an advantage over the West in conventional armaments. Belgium, however, in the course of the meetings within the Western European Union framework declared for the West to continue abiding by its own proposals which were put forward not so long ago, including the zero option."

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CSO: 5200/1372

INTERMEDIATE-RANGE NUCLEAR FORCES

SOVIET JOURNAL ASSESSES DUTCH DEBATE OVER DEPLOYMENT

Moscow MIROVAYA EKONOMIKA I MEZHDUNARODNYYE OTNOSHENIYA in Russian No 2,
Feb 86 (signed to press 14 Jan 86) pp 93-96

[Article by K. Andreyev: "The Netherlands Faced With a Choice"]

[Excerpts] The year of 1985 was one of a difficult decision for the Netherlands. For 6 years the country's governments, which had been replacing one another, had been postponing a decision on the deployment of American cruise missiles on Dutch territory, encountering the strongest resistance to this on the part of the public. The present center-right cabinet headed by R. Lubbers ultimately succumbed to Washington's pressure. But the "missile question" continues to stir the political life of the Netherlands. It has forced many Dutch to look anew at the events taking place in the world. The broad antiwar movement represents the main force of opposition to the "winged death." The number of politicians understanding the need to renounce support for NATO's militarist policy is growing also.

II

Previously Netherlands' ruling circles rejected the idea of the development of "European" military cooperation, referring to the fact that it was being exercised within the NATO Eurogroup framework. However, increasingly great attention has been paid to the question of "defense integration" recently. Defense Minister J. de Kuitert emphasized in the course of a meeting with his French colleague in June 1985 the need to stimulate the activity of the Western European Union and the Eurogroup as the "sole political and military organizations within whose framework the (West) European countries coordinate their actions in the arms sphere." As a whole, the government declares its invariable support for efforts aimed at "making the political union of the said states more dynamic."

III

The country's policy course on the European continent is determined by its participation in the EEC, and its approach to key questions of the international situation by membership of NATO. It was among the first 12 countries to sign the North Atlantic pact in 1949. In receipt of "Marshall Plan" financial-economic assistance from the United States, the Netherlands concluded a number

of agreements with Washington, which led to the country's departure from the positions of traditional neutralism. Giving priority in its foreign policy to relations with Washington, the Hague became the United States' loyal ally in Europe. In 1957 the Netherlands was the first of NATO's European participants to "welcome" the construction of stores and the deployment therein of American nuclear warheads, make bases available for the billeting of American and West German combat units and dispatch its servicemen to the "forward lines of defense" of the North Atlantic bloc. The country's ruling circles also did their bit in exacerbating international tension in the cold war years.

However, the intensification of the struggle of two opposite trends and two courses in world politics and the wide-ranging peace-loving initiatives of the socialist states could not have failed to have influenced the Netherlands' approach to East-West mutual relations. Their foreign policy course came to be characterized to a greater extent by circumspection and an understanding of the danger of a further escalation of tension and an intensification of the arms race.

A coalition of the Christian Democratic Appeal (CDA) and People's Party for Freedom and Democracy (PPFD) has been in office in the Netherlands since 1982. Formed on the basis of several clerical parties, the CDA adheres to a course "somewhat right of center," while the PPFD, representing the interests of the commercial-financial haute bourgeoisie, cleaves to frankly rightwing positions.

The assumption of office by this coalition led to a certain shift to the right of certain accents in the country's foreign policy line. However, the scale of the antiwar movement (the most active in West Europe) and also the ruling circles' fear that the Washington administration's "power policy" could involve the country in an armed conflict is forcing the government to adjust its policy, particularly where "national security interests" or the country's economic position are directly affected.

The government recognizes the need for military detente, calls on the allies to pay more attention to questions of preventing a nuclear confrontation and emphasizes particularly the right recorded in Article 5 of the North Atlantic Treaty to members' independence in the choice of individual or collective means of defense in each individual instance.

In 1979 the Hague approved NATO's "twin decision," but made a reservation here whose essence amounted to the final decision on the deployment of 48 cruise missiles on Dutch territory depending on the outcome of the Soviet-American negotiations on a limitation of nuclear arms in Europe. This "special position" was not, however, mentioned in the official communique of the NATO Council session (it was indicated only in the form of an appendix to one of the session's secret documents). The bloc leadership represented the "twin decision" as unanimity, which gave rise to sharp protests in the country.

A broad antiwar movement developed in Holland which embraced all strata of the population and affected to this extent or the other practically all political parties. Up to half a million persons gathered at protest demonstrations at any one time. A petition to the government demanding that American missiles

not be allowed on Dutch soil had been signed by the fall of 1985 by 4 million persons--more than half the adult population. Simultaneously there was increased pressure on the R. Lubbers government both on the part of the United States and the NATO leadership.

We would recall that governments of various political colors had on several occasions postponed a final decision on deployment of the cruise missiles on Dutch territory. On 1 June 1984 the R. Lubbers cabinet set the final date--1 November 1985--which was occasioned by the NATO deployment schedule, which provides for putting the last of the 572 intermediate-range nuclear missiles on combat alert at the end of 1988. The Hague declared here that it would make a decision depending on whether or not the number of SS-20 missiles had exceeded by November 1985 the June 1984 level. As M.S. Gorbachev declared in the speech to French members of parliament in October 1985, the Soviet Union had maintained the given level in its European zone. However, the Dutch Government illegitimately linked its decision with the total number of SS-20 missiles deployed on the entire territory of the Soviet Union. The fact that the Soviet missiles deployed in the Asian zone are totally unrelated to West Europe was ignored here.

On 1 November 1985 the government resolved to conclude with the United States an agreement on the deployment of 48 American cruise missiles at the reequipped "Wunsdrecht" Air Base. The agreement has to be approved by parliament, where members of the government coalition parties are confronted by an opposition barely inferior to it in strength headed by the country's biggest party--the Labor (social democratic) Party. The number of supporters in parliament of deployment is only slightly more than the number of its opponents, and in the light of the parliamentary elections to be held in May 1986 the outcome of the debate on the "missile question" is far from clear.

The agreement between the Netherlands and the United States has been concluded for a term of 5 years. With the other countries on whose territory the intermediate-range nuclear missiles are being deployed the term of the agreement was not specified. As J. den Uyl, leader of the social democrats, emphasized, this clause was recorded in the agreement to make the 1 November decision "binding" on the government which assumes office following the elections.

At the same time the agreement mentions the possibility of an adjustment to the number of missiles deployed or scheduled for deployment in the event of an appropriate accord being reached between the USSR and the United States. In this plane the results of the Soviet-American top-level meeting in Geneva were seen in the Netherlands as "reassuring," the agreement on accelerating the process of the arms limitation talks being highlighted particularly.

While having given in to the pressure of Washington and also a number of European NATO allies on the "missile question," the Dutch Government adopted a different position on such a most important problem as the militarization of space. In October 1985 it announced its rejection of the U.S. proposal that it participate in realization of the notorious "strategic defense initiative."

Attempting to halt the slide in the popularity of the present ruling coalition brought about by the decision on the missiles, which is contrary to the will of the majority of the population, the Lubbers government announced in November 1985 its intention to cut back somewhat on its nuclear commitments within the framework of the NATO bloc in respect of tactical nuclear arms. It was a question of refusing to employ obsolete models of nuclear warheads (bombs) on Orion patrol aircraft and F-16 fighter bombers, which run along the North Sea coast. NATO General Secretary Lord Carrington sent the country's government a letter which said that "the allies are against a cutback in Holland's assignments in the event of nuclear war." But even following this demarche the Lubbers cabinet stuck to its decision.

The Hague considers undesirable an increase by the NATO bloc in chemical weapon stocks. In 1982 the government announced that it would not equip the army with chemical weapons and prohibited the storage thereof on the country's territory. Speaking in parliament in June 1985, H. van den Broek declared that the Netherlands would not permit the United States to deploy chemical weapons on Dutch soil. He confirmed that the government advocates the conclusion of a treaty banning chemical weapons.

As far as the country's participation in the NATO program for a buildup of conventional arms (the so-called "Rogers Plan") is concerned, the Hague, citing economic difficulties, is not complying with the decision adopted by the NATO bloc in 1978 on a 3-percent annual increase in military spending in real terms. In the period 1979-1983 it grew on average by 1.5 percent, although it is planned raising this indicator to 2 percent in 1984-1986.

Summing up what has been said, it should be emphasized that, despite certain specific features of the Netherlands' military-political course, it is exercised within the framework of the general strategy of the North Atlantic alliance. West Europe, the country's official circles believe, cannot represent "a third way between the two superpowers." At the same time, however, the Hague is advocating that the West's policy in respect of the East assume "more clearly expressed European features." This should enhance the role of the small West European states and cater for their interests better, it is believed.

The Netherlands' relations with the Soviet Union have taken shape unevenly over the past several years. They experienced a certain decline caused by the Dutch Government's decision to limit bilateral relations on a variety of far-fetched pretexts. The practice of consultations along foreign ministry lines and the exchange of visits at ministerial level was suspended, and cultural ties were limited appreciably.

Recently the country's government has begun to gradually depart from this policy. A representative parliamentary delegation came to the Soviet Union in November 1983 on a working visit, and an official General Staffs (parliament) delegation visited in October 1984. Contacts at ministerial level were resumed in 1984. Foreign Minister H. van den Broek paid a visit to Moscow in April 1985. Topical questions of world politics and the prospects for the further development of bilateral relations were discussed in the course of the negotiations.

The two states' cooperation in the trade-economic and S&T spheres is developing sufficiently favorably. Reciprocal commodity exchange in 1984 constituted R1.8 billion. The Netherlands is in sixth place in the Soviet Union's trade with West European countries. Sessions of the mixed commissions on navigation and cooperation in the economic, industrial and S&T spheres and of the agriculture working group are conducted regularly. In the cultural sphere mutual relations are developing currently on the basis of the Cultural and Scientific Cooperation Program.

The "biggest of the small" West European states is an active participant in international life. The country's foreign policy course remains within the channel of the basic principles of NATO and the EEC, but has undergone a certain modification with the passage of time. The Netherlands cannot fail to realize that the international tension being spurred by reactionary imperialist circles is seriously harming the interests of small countries.

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CS0: 5200/1372

CHEMICAL/BIOLOGICAL WEAPONS

USSR: U.S. SEEKS ALLIES' AGREEMENT TO BINARY-ARMS DEPLOYMENT

UK Backing Hit

LD290925 Moscow TASS in English 0738 GMT 29 Apr 86

[Text] London 29 Apr TASS--TASS correspondent Nikolay Pakhomov reports:

The British Government has officially confirmed its support for the U.S. plans to develop and produce a new generation of chemical weapons. Addressing the House of Commons of the British parliament, John Stanley, British minister of state, Ministry of Defence, said that the programme started by Washington for a "modernisation" of chemical weapons will contribute towards "support for the NATO's strategy of deterrence and flexible reaction."

The minister of state has echoed the unfounded inventions of his overseas colleagues about the alleged Soviet "superiority" in the field of chemical weapons. In so doing, the representative of the British war department went so far as to claim that the build-up of the arsenals of the latest chemical weapons will be useful for...the speediest reaching of an agreement on a total ban on the chemical weapons.

London has once again demonstrated that it is an obedient tool of Washington's will and supporter of all of its militaristic designs, by backing the United States plans in the field of chemical weapons. The statement by John Stanley in Parliament has touched off a storm of indignation from representatives of the political opposition. Denzil Davis, member of the Labour Party "shadow cabinet" in charge of defence and disarmament issues, demanded that the government reject the U.S. plans and stressed that their implementation would further complicate progress at the disarmament talks. David Owen, leader of the Social Democratic Party, described the United States designs supported by Whitehall as disgusting from the moral viewpoint. Even Conservative deputy Anthony Nelson, who can by no means be considered a "pacifist", said that he was deeply concerned about the expediency of developing and accumulating the terrible new weapons of mass annihilation.

UK Public 'Alarmed'

PM091324 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 5 May 86 Morning Edition p 4

[Article by A. Krivopalov: "Capitulation Again?"]

[Text] London--A new danger is hanging over the British. They are threatened with the prospect of U.S. binary weapons being deployed in the British Isles under "exceptional circumstances."

While NATO representatives met in Brussels to sanction, away from the eyes of the West European public, the American plan which envisages reinforcing existing Pentagon arsenals with "sophisticated" chemical mass destruction weapons, in Albion the alarm was sounding.

Protests against the actions of the Tory government, which, ostensibly in principle, already supported Washington in this issue, sounded even within the walls of Westminster. Representatives of the parliamentary opposition demanded that official London clearly and unequivocally state that under no circumstances would it permit the deployment of American binary weapons in the British Isles.

D. Davis, defense minister in the Labor "Shadow Cabinet," decisively condemned the plan that was approved, to all appearances, by NATO circles in secret. He stressed that this project had never been discussed in British Parliament.

Davis warned: "It will cause considerable damage to NATO and will only promote the chemical arms race, which may reach the same level and intensity as the nuclear arms race."

D. Owen, leader of the Social Democrats, condemned the binary weapons plan as "reprehensible in moral respects, politically provocative, and useless from a military viewpoint."

Commentators in the British press note that the Pentagon and NATO are speeding up the implementation of the "binary program" while the USSR has put forward at the Geneva Disarmament Conference a new plan to ban chemical weapons.

Answering criticism from the opposition, a high-ranking plenipotentiary from the British Ministry of Defense tried to calm the alarmed public. He assured them that the country's government will consider its decision before giving its formal consent to the deployment of binary weapons on British territory. Promises after promises, but who can now believe them with peace of mind after what happened with the piratical U.S. attack on Libya? The Tory power conceded totally at that time to the initiators of the aggressive attack on this country's innocent cities. Are we not talking about fresh capitulation?

Danish, Dutch 'Firm Rebuff'

LD072041 Moscow TASS in English 1848 GMT 7 May 86

[Text] Copenhagen, May 7 TASS--The U.S. pressure for consent to the deployment in Western Europe of new American chemical weapons meets with firm rebuff from its NATO allies.

As Danish Defense Minister Hans Engell said during a conversation with the NATO Secretary-General Lord Carrington, who paid an unofficial visit to Copenhagen, the country's government opposes American plans of producing a new generation of chemical weapons and deploying them in Europe. He also pointed out that the Danish Government will under no circumstances agree to deploy chemical weapons in Denmark. The NATO visitor obviously disliked this position and tried to reason with the "obstinate" partner. Making a point of strengthening NATO solidarity. Lord Carrington urged NATO allies to iron out differences rather than bring them to the fore. Meantime, he called on Denmark to increase its military expenditures, and give a "low key" treatment to its position in the field of chemical weapons.

The Hague May 7 TASS -- The Netherlands turns down the U.S. dangerous plans of producing new types of chemical weapons and deploying them in Western Europe. The Dutch defense minister, Jacob de Ruiter, said in Parliament that Holland refuses to deploy these weapons on its territory and will not give permission to its Armed Forces to use them. He pointed out that he would unequivocally state the position of the Netherlands on this issue in the NATO's governing bodies. According to Jacob de Ruiter, an approval of American plans would have an adverse effect on the holding of the disarmament talks in Geneva.

Dangers Highlighted

LD082338 Moscow TASS in English 1653 GMT 8 May 86

[Text] Moscow May 8 TASS -- Follows commentary by TASS News Analyst Yevgeniy Yegorov:

Belgium's Defence Ministry said that four Belgian servicemen were killed as a result of an explosion of a shell filled with a chemical warfare agent. This happened on a practice ground in the area of the city of Westrozebeke at a time when my field engineers were trying to defuse a shell, which preserved since the times of the first world war. [sentence as received]

Thus, the 71-year-old shadow of death has again killed people in Western Europe. Chemical warfare agents were for the first time used by German troops on April 22, 1915. But that was the past, and it pales to the threat of chemical death at present.

The United States has stockpiled in Europe, chiefly on the FRG's territory, more than 10,000 tons of chemical warfare agents. Now a fresh crime is being prepared against the peoples of Europe. U.S. Congress has set aside funds for the construction of works and the production of a new type of chemical warfare agents, the so-called binary weapons. Flowline production of binary weapons -- 155 mm chemical shells and "Big eye" bombs is to be started late next year.

But already now the Pentagon is seeking consent from the West European allies of the USA and NATO to the deployment of those terrible mass destruction weapons on the territory of their countries. True, this, as they say, is a "contingency plan", but such a gimmick will hardly deceive anybody.

The permanent representatives of the North Atlantic bloc member countries have already approved these plans, which are to be examined at the NATO Military Planning Committee on May 22. Two countries — Denmark and the Netherlands — have resolutely opposed those plans. Serious objections have also been raised by Norway. There is strong political opposition in Britain, the FRG and a number of other countries to turning Western Europe into a "binary gas chamber".

The fresh criminal designs of the United States military explain why the United States and some of its allies are so stubbornly opposing the conclusions of a convention on a total prohibition and elimination of chemical weapons, talks on which have been underway at Geneva for many years now. The Soviet Union has put forward a programme for totally ridding Europe and the whole world of that mass destruction weapon. New Soviet proposals were tabled at the Geneva Conference on Disarmament on April 22, on a ban on chemical weapons; a statement to this effect was made by Mikhail Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, at the 11th Congress of the Socialist Unity Party of Germany in Berlin.

But NATO responds to these peaceful proposals by sinister plans for the deployment of American binary weapons in Western Europe. It is high time for them to change their mind, or the tragedy in the Belgian city of Westrozebeke may prove to be a child's play as compared with a terrible catastrophe, which the Pentagon, assisted by the leaders of a number of NATO member countries, above all Britain and the FRG, is preparing for the peoples of Europe.

U.S. Continues Pressure

LD112031 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0930 GMT 11 May 86

[Vladimir Pasko commentary]

[Text] DPA reports on the Bundestag session scheduled for 15 May, which is to discuss the stationing of new U.S. chemical weapons on the country's territory. The same issue is to be debated by the British Parliament within the next few days. The debates will be held at the demand of the opposition parties on the threshold of the conference of NATO defense and foreign ministers, at which the Americans intend to obtain official backing for their latest militarist plan.

Our commentator Vladimir Pasko is at the microphone.

Washington is striving to get permission from its allies to station new toxic combat weapons on their territory. According to the press, it is, specifically, a matter of 40,000 bombs and 500,000 howitzer shells filled with nerve-paralyzing substances and set up on the binary principle.

American concerns have already received orders for these weapons from the Pentagon, but Congress has decreed that they should be stationed anywhere suitable but not on U.S. territory. This requirement is the reason for the pressure now being applied to its NATO partners by Washington. The partners have greeted the idea from across the

ocean without enthusiasm. The British ECONOMIST noted a few days ago that the governments of the West European countries which regard chemical weapons with particular revulsion because of the consequences of their use during World War I, may be tempted to instruct their ministers to vote against the U.S. plan. The countries referred to in this regard include in particular Denmark, the Netherlands, and Italy. Nor does the FRG have any zeal for them. According to the newspapers, only Britain's Conservative government intends to approve the U.S. actions, and then only secretly -- in other words behind the backs of the people.

In view of the situation, the NATO leaders are attempting to convince the West Europeans that American binary shells and bombs will allegedly provide them with additional security. Against the background of the latest Soviet initiatives these claims look, to put it mildly, unconvincing.

May I remind you that in putting forward a program for the elimination of mass-strike weapons by the year 2000 the Soviet Union also proposed the elimination of all chemical weapons together with the industrial base for their manufacture. The United States has ignored these proposals in favor of its military business and to the detriment of Europe. Western Europe realizes the danger of the overseas plans but, as events show, is still not ready to give them a rebuff. It plainly does not have sufficient political will. Meanwhile, time is not waiting, and the Americans have already transformed Europe into a dangerous dump for their weapons.

'Comparable to Nuclear Weapons'

LD121458 Moscow World Service in English 1310 GMT 12 May 86

[Aleksandr Pogodin commentary]

[Text] International news agencies report the NATO countries are to spell out their position shortly in view of the American planned production of binary chemical weapons and their deployment in Western Europe. A commentary has been prepared by Aleksandr Pogodin.

In terms of their kill, experts say binary weapons are comparable to nuclear weapons. The United States would like to flood the NATO countries in Europe with new weapons of mass annihilation. If the region is turned into a theater of fatal chemical warfare civilians will inevitably become the main victims. The United States clearly hopes to ward off a strike of retaliation from its territory and place the territory and population of its allies under a strike of this kind. It's quite natural that the American plans have drawn no support from a number of NATO countries. REUTER comments by saying that what makes the NATO task more difficult is this: The Soviet chemical weapons initiatives have drawn an understanding view from many European nations. These proposals provide for scrapping both these weapons and the industrial facilities involved in their production. The Soviet Union has suggested a concrete schedule for ridding our planet of chemical weapons by the end of the century. Its proposals put special emphasis on the need to work out measures to monitor action on a corresponding agreement including systematic, international, on-site inspection. Start comparing the two positions and you can see who is in favor of stemming the chemical war threat and who is pressing to inflate this threat.

FRG's 'Secret' Decision

LD122006 Moscow TASS in English 1915 GMT 12 May 86

[Text] Moscow May 12 TASS — TASS Political News Analyst Aleksey Grigoryev writes:

"To be or not to be: That is the question". FRG politicians now again pretend to be agonizing over the need to make a decision. Earlier, feigning uncertainty for a while, the West German authorities, however, joined in the sinister 'star wars' programme of the USA. The deployment of a horrible type of chemical weapons, binary weapons, in the FRG is now in the order of the day. And again, the decision, taken secretly in the Bonn corridors of power, is for the time being concealed from the public of the FRG and other countries by the smokescreen of various vague statements. The FRG Government resorts to the tactic of keeping back the truth and spreading half-truths or falsehoods and in every way avoids giving answers to questions posed by Social Democrats, also in the Bundestag. This is how the essence of the pretensions at casting about for the decision in Bonn is assessed by a prominent leader of the SDPG [Social Democratic Party of Germany], chairman of the working section of the parliamentary group of the party on foreign policy matters, Karsten Voigt.

Hermann Scheer, expert of the parliamentary group of the party on disarmament matters, speaks with concern about the fresh escalation of the chemical arms race into which the FRG has been involved. He writes in a press bulletin of the SDPG that this fact cannot be refuted by any official statements, that there is agreement between Bonn and Washington not to deploy U.S. binary weapons in the FRG without the consent of the FRG Government. As doubtful, in the opinion of the Social Democratic member of parliament, is the assertion of representatives of the ruling coalition that new chemical weapons will not be deployed in the FRG in peacetime at all. It is doubtful if only for the reason that components of those weapons can be delivered from the USA to depots prepared in the FRG in advance within only ten hours.

Huge stockpiles of chemical weapons, enough to poison the entire population of Europe, have been kept at U.S. ammunition dumps near Fischbach, Rhienland-Palatinate, over many years. Peace champions in the FRG continue their protests against this horrible source of danger in the heartland of the old world.

The idea of creating in Europe a zone free from chemical weapons, worked out jointly by the Socialist Unity Party of Germany and the Social Democratic Party of Germany is valuable and constructive. New large-scale proposals aimed at ridding humanity of chemical weapons were advanced at the Geneva conference on disarmament by the Soviet Union. Social Democratic Karsten Voigt on behalf of his party urged the cabinet of Helmut Kohl to follow the example of the Netherlands Government and to declare firmly to the United States that he rejects the production of binary weapons and will not allow their deployment in the FRG.

Bonn answers these calls, demands and proposals with ambiguous statements and absolutely unambiguous actions. The REUTER agency reports with a reference to governmental sources in Bonn that it is hoped in the circles of the ruling coalition CDU [Christian Democratic Union] - CSU [Christian Social Union] - Free Democratic Party that Washington's West European allies will approve of the agreement between the USA and the FRG on the production and deployment of the new kind of chemical weapons. By all indications, the lot has already been cast and debates on the question of binary weapons to be held in the West German Bundestag on May 15 are putting a good face on the matter. It can be recalled in this connection that several days before the

parliamentary debates in November 1983 on the deployment of U.S. first-strike nuclear weapons in the FRG, components of the first "Pershing-2" missiles had already been brought to the U.S. air base at Ramstein from the USA.

There is perhaps no other government in Western Europe that would be supporting the U.S. militaristic programmes with such zeal. "The man took it into his head that in any question of importance he must not deviate from what President Reagan regards as right", this is what former FRG chancellor, Chairman of the SDPG Willy Brandt said about present chancellor of the FRG, Chairman of the CDU Helmut Kohl. One cannot but agree with this assessment.

FRG Agreement Assailed

LD141543 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1045 GMT 14 May 86

[Commentary by Political Observer Aleksey Grigoryev]

[Text] Moscow, 14 May, (TASS) -- So, what was secret has become reality. The accord that U.S. President Reagan and FRG Chancellor Kohl reached at the "Big Seven" meeting in Tokyo regarding the production and deployment of new generation binary chemical weapons has been confirmed at yesterday's session of the FRG Federal Security Council. As a REUTER correspondent reported from Bonn, the session, which was under the chairmanship of the head of the West German Government, adopted a "key decision" that opens the path to the diplomat of U.S. binary weapons in Western Europe, first and foremost in the FRG.

The flywheel of a new arms race is, to all appearances, gaining speed. As the West German DPA agency writes, "parliamentarians on both sides of the Atlantic in the near future have to discuss the monstrous, unimaginable specter of chemical warfare in Europe." On 15 May, debates on this question will be held in the FRG Bundestag. Similar discussions will be held in the House of Commons of the British Parliament also. Observers consider the decisive dates regarding this question to be 22 May, when defense ministers of NATO member-countries meet in Brussels; and 29 May, when foreign ministers of those states meet in Halifax, Canada. It is from these meetings that the final "go-ahead" is expected for the production of binary weapons in the United States, since the U.S. Congress is consenting to allocate the appropriate funds only on the condition that Washington's NATO partners permit the stockpiling of the new generation combat toxins on their territory.

Once more a propaganda spectacle is being played out with the aim of giving some kind of "respectability" to the "monstrous specter of chemical warfare." Official Washington is making assurances that the mass of its chemical weapons deployed in Western Europe, mainly in the FRG, is already "obsolete" and needs renewing. But official Bonn declares that the removal of the old armaments will be completed by 1992, and that the new generation combat toxins will be delivered and deployed in the FRG only in "crisis situations" and only with the consent of the West German Government.

This subterfuge can only deceive those who wish to be deceived. In the FRG today the places for the deployment of binary weapons are being openly named -- the U.S. military depots near Pirmasens, Hanau, Aligau, and Mannheim. The sad lesson of the distribution [dialokatsiya] of U.S. first-strike weapons has not been lost on the Europeans.

So the parliamentary opposition in the persons of the SPD [Social Democratic Party] and Green Party is resolutely objecting to the production of the binary weapons and their deployment in the FRG. That is why the Governments of the Netherlands and Denmark are refusing the "gift" from across the ocean.

As you know, the USSR has proposed saving the planet from mass destruction weapons in this century, including chemical weapons, and made concrete initiatives on this question at the Geneva Disarmament Conference. Our country attaches special importance to the idea of creating in Europe a zone free of chemical weapons. It is against talks on this subject, against drafting an international convention on an all-embracing ban on chemical weapons, that Washington's plans to embark on producing binary changes and deploying them in Western Europe are directed. Bonn, too, shares responsibility for this dangerous course.

NATO Planning Committee Approval

LD161639 Moscow TASS in English 1605 GMT 16 May 86

[Text] Brussels May 16 TASS -- The NATO military-political bloc strongly pressed by the USA has approved the Reagan administration's dangerous militarist plans on "modernizing" U.S. arsenals of chemical weapons. These plans provide for production in the USA of the latest generation of chemical mass destruction weapons -- binary shells with nerve gas to be deployed in Western Europe. This "decision in principle" was adopted at yesterday's closed special meeting of the NATO Defence Planning Committee.

According to the BELGA NEWS AGENCY, representatives of the Netherlands, Denmark, Norway and Greece opposed these plans of the Pentagon. The Belgian delegation did not voice its final say on the above problem. The reason is that differences on U.S. plans emerged inside the ruling coalition in the country.

Danger to FRG Seen

LD161824 Moscow TASS in English 1754 GMT 16 May 86

[Text] Moscow May 16 TASS--TASS Political News Analyst Aleksey Grigoryev writes:

FRG Defence Minister Manfred Woerner is firm as the service regulations [as received]: Bonn says "yes" to the production of binary weapons in the USA, the minister said at the debates in the Bundestag on the question of the latest chemical weapons. What he has said shows that the CDU [Christian Democratic Union]/CSU [Christian Social Union]-Free Democratic Party coalition ruling on the [as received] Bonn supports the U.S. sinister plans and is actually prepared, following Pershing-2 and cruise missiles, to deploy binary artillery shells and "Big Eye" aviation bombs on the West German territory. The reservations made by the war minister himself and other members of cabinet about this obvious readiness of official Bonn hardly deserve to be taken seriously.

It is said that 10,000 tons of "obsolete" chemical ammunition that is kept at four U.S. depots in the FRG and that can poison entire Europe now will be taken out of the country by 1992. But is not Washington intending to replace "obsolete" chemical weapons with the latest ones, for whose manufacture the Congress has already decided to appropriate 160 million dollars and intends to add 318 million dollars? Does not the U.S. Administration intend to get consent for the deployment of binary weapons from all its West European allies? It is known that precisely for this purpose chief of the Pentagon Caspar Weinberger will arrive for a meeting of defence ministers of the NATO member-countries in Brussels on May 22.

True, it was said in the Bundestag that U.S. binary weapons are to be deployed in the FRG "not in peace time but only in emergencies", and then with the consent of the Bonn government. But do not the examples of Libya, Nicaragua and other countries indicate Washington's striving to create crisis situations in various areas of the world? Expert on disarmament of the parliamentary group of the SDP (Social Democratic Party) Hermann Scheer holds that given a will, components of binary charges can be airlifted across the Atlantic to the FRG within only ten hours. As to the consent of the FRG Government, it already now fully supports the beginning of the production of new horrible weapons in the USA and agrees to their deployment in its own country. And only a month ago, in April, Chancellor Helmut Kohl solemnly promised at a press conference in Bonn that there will be no deployment of new binary chemical shells on the FRG territory...

It is not accidental that this policy of the ruling bloc came up against a sharp criticism from the parliamentary opposition -- the SDP and the Greens Party, and also against stormy indignation in various sections of the West German population.

The Soviet Union, as is known, proposed that the globe be rid of weapons of mass destruction, including chemical weapons, in this century and advanced concrete initiatives to this effect at the Geneva Conference on Disarmament. But the U.S. ruling circles and their most zealous ally -- the CDU/CSU-Free Democratic Party in Bonn -- continue putting additional obstacles in this sphere to the development and deepening of the East-West dialogue, that proceeds with difficulty as it is.

FRG Opposition Noted

LD160905 Moscow TASS in English 0730 GMT 16 May 86

[Text] Bonn May 15 TASS -- The West German Government and the CDU/CSU (Christian Democratic Union/Christian Social Union) bloc forming it fully back U.S. plans to produce a new barbarous type of chemical weapons, binary munitions. Eager to please Washington, they intend to forgo the security interests of their own country and are prepared with certain reservations to make its territory available for the deployment of these U.S. chemical warfare agents.

This has been demonstrated by Bundestag debates on chemical weapons. Speaking there Defense Minister Manfred Woerner (CDU) declared that Bonn says 'yes' to the manufacture of binary munitions in the United States.

Keen to allay public concern, he claimed, however, that the new U.S. chemical weapons will not be sited in Western German territory "in peacetime" and that their deployments will only be carried out "in a crisis" and "in agreement" with the Bonn government.

Woerner and other members of the ruling coalition during the debates made stock claims of "Soviet superiority" in the field to justify their posture.

The debates showed that Bonn has yielded to U.S. pressure. Chancellor Helmut Kohl, speaking at a news conference in Bonn as recently as last April, said "there will no deployments of new binary chemical shells in the territory of the Federal Republic of Germany."

Bonn's present position has been sharply criticized by members of the parliamentary opposition from the Social Democratic Party (SDP) and the "Greens" Party.

The Government's expressed approval of binary weapons production in the United States "opens the door to a new spiral in the arms race", said Karsten Voigt, the SDP faction's expert on foreign policy. He spoke out for setting up a chemical-weapons-free zone in central Europe. This, Karsten said, could mark the first step to ridding mankind of the chemical threat.

Another member of the SDP faction, Hermann Scheer, said Bonn's position "makes more probable the use of weapons of mass annihilation in Europe."

Egon Bahr, a member of the SDP board, said the decision to start the production of chemical weapons in the United States torpedoes Geneva talks on disarmament.

MP Torsten Lange of the "Greens" party said the West German Government is becoming an accomplice in the new round of the arms race. Government spokesmen's claims that the United States is prepared to remove part of chemical warfare agents from West German territory "in order to promote disarmament," he said, are nothing more than a propaganda ploy. What is meant, he said, is removing only obsolete weapons whose place will then be taken by new, more modern and dangerous chemical warfare agents.

'First-Strike Weapon'

LD191706 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1515 GMT 19 May 86

["A Ban on Chemical Weapons": Commentary by TASS Observer Vladimir Matyash]

[Text] Moscow, 19 May (TASS) -- John Stanley, UK minister of state for defense, said on television that U.S. binary chemical weapons might be sited in Britain even in peacetime. At a time of tension, he said, it is important to have a suitable means of deterrent at one's disposal, even if that means new chemical weapons. Such a statement, phrased in an overtly militarist spirit, can only be evaluated as evidence of the country being subject to Washington's aggressive, imperialist course in the international arena.

The intention of official London is another dangerous step by the Conservative cabinet that does not miss any opportunity to reaffirm its feelings of loyalty toward the United States or to display unconditional support for the White House's militaristic course. Specific proof of this is the Tories' adherence to the star wars program, the siting of "cruise death" and Pershing-2 missiles on British soil, and permission to U.S. Air Force planes to take off from bases on British territory for the barbaric bombing of sovereign Libya. Such actions by the Thatcher government deprive Great Britain of freedom of action in formulating foreign policy. These incidents come as a blow to the independent status of Britain which is increasingly becoming the U.S. obedient ally; and they create an enormous threat to the cause of world peace.

Plans for production of new chemical weapons in the United States were recently endorsed by the NATO Military Planning Committee under powerful pressure from Washington despite opposition from a number of West European states. The White House is doing all it can to force the U.S. Congress to adopt a decision by 1 October 1986 to allocate funds to produce binary weapons.

According to NATO military doctrine, chemical weapons are allocated the role of first-strike weapons. Implementation of the NATO decision on production and siting of the new types of chemical weapons in Western Europe would mean a plain violation of the most important provisions of the joint Soviet-U.S. summit level statement in Geneva. It would also upset the military-strategic equilibrium in Europe and worldwide, and would greatly hamper talks in Geneva between the USSR and United States on arms limitation.

The U.S. plans were criticized at a meeting held recently in Prague between representatives of the CPCZ, the German SED, and the SPD [Social Democratic Party of Germany], who came out with an initiative for creating a zone free of such weapons in Europe. This could undoubtedly foster the cessation of the buildup of chemical weapons and lead to their elimination because the siting of binary weapons in West European countries threatens to turn the heavily populated countries of the continent into a potential theater for a ruinous chemical war, in which the civilian population would be the chief victim.

The USSR condemns the plans for the production and siting of binary chemical weapons. There is a renewed affirmation of the USSR's constructive stand in the proposals announced by Mikhail Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, in his speech at the 11th SED Congress on 18 April. The essence of these proposals is to immediately ban and destroy chemical weapons under the strictest controls, including international on-site inspection. The new Soviet proposals are clear affirmation of the fact that the USSR's words are not divorced from its practical deeds. The next step is up to those who are holding up progress in talks on chemical weapons on invented pretexts, first and foremost the United States.

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CSO: 5200/1368

CHEMICAL/BIOLOGICAL WEAPONS

USSR: CPCZ, SED, SPD REPRESENTATIVES ON CW-FREE ZONE

CSSR Representative Cited

LD132034 Moscow TASS in English 2006 GMT 13 May 86

[Text] Prague May 13 TASS -- Representatives of the Communist Party of Czechoslovakia (KSC), the Socialist Unity party of Germany (SED) and Social Democratic Party of Germany (SPD) held a meeting here today. It was attended by Vasil Bilak, a member of the Presidium and secretary of the KSC Central Committee, Hermann Axen, a member of the Political Bureau and secretary of the SED Central Committee, and Egon Bahr, a member of the SPD Board and Presidium, deputy to the West German Bundestag. The sides exchanged information and views on the establishment of a zone free from chemical weapons in Europe.

Speaking at a news conference here, the representatives of the three parties informed newsmen about its results. The sides, Vasil Bilak said, are unanimous in the opinion that now it is more important than ever before to head off the further build-up of chemical arsenals, the production and deployment of binary shells in some Western European countries. The U.S. Administration is doing everything to make the U.S. Congress pass the decision, by October 1, 1986, on the allocation of funds for the production of binary weapons.

There exists a real threat that meetings of NATO ministers in May will pass such decisions which would open up the road toward the production of binary weapons and their storage in Western Europe. According to the available data, it is planned to deploy 40,000 air bombs and 500,000 shells for 155-mm howitzers. Under NATO's military doctrine chemical weapons are assigned the role of nearly first-strike weapons. People and governments of Western Europe countries should do everything to prevent that from happening.

Those who claim that binary weapons are less dangerous than nuclear arms are deliberately misleading the people, Vasil Bilak went on to say.

Considering all these factors, he said, the SED, the SPD and the KSC, and also the Governments of the German Democratic Republic and Czechoslovakia set forth the initiative on establishing in Europe a zone free from chemical weapons. The heads of government of the G.D.R. and Czechoslovakia sent the proposal to Federal Chancellor Helmut Kohl of West Germany to open talks on setting up such a zone. The talks could result in the adoption of a joint agreement to which other European countries could accede. Such a step would not only promote enhanced European security, it would promote stronger universal peace. All Warsaw Treaty member-states unanimously support that initiative.

Our meeting was held at the time when the threat of accumulation of chemical weapons in Europe has grown dramatically. This is why we set forth the initiative on the establishment in Europe of a zone free from such weapons, Egon Bahr said. This could lead to the termination of all forms of buildup of the means of chemical warfare and to their subsequent elimination. Our proposal is equally acceptable to the East and the West, because it does not damage the security of either side. Our joint initiative is a component part of the general effort to achieve universal disarmament.

We urge the neighboring countries -- Belgium, Holland, Luxembourg, Poland and Hungary -- to join our initiative.

Aware of our responsibility before the people, we consider it to be our duty to keep the public informed about most important problems of the present day, Hermann Axen said. On May 22 NATO defense ministers will gather in Brussels to take a decision on the production and deployment of new types of weapons in Western Europe. On May 29-30 NATO foreign ministers will be discussing possibilities for the production of chemical mass annihilation weapons. This could become a fateful step in preparations for nuclear war, in the intensification of the arms race. NATO's decision on the production and deployment of new types of chemical weapons in Western Europe would mean a direct violation of the most important provisions of the joint Soviet-American statement made at the summit level in Geneva. This would also upset the strategic military balance in Europe and the world and would seriously complicate the Geneva talks between the U.S.S.R. and the United States on preventing the militarization of outer space. We urge the people, parliaments and political parties in Europe and the world over to thwart the attempts aimed at undermining the security of nations.

Statement Issued

LD140954 Moscow TASS in English 0853 GMT 14 May 86

[Text] Prague May 14 TASS -- CTK news agency has released a statement on the results of a meeting in Prague of the representatives of the Communist Party of Czechoslovakia, the Socialist Unity Party of Germany and the Social Democratic Party of Germany on the issue of setting up a zone free of chemical weapons in Europe.

The statement says that the peace initiative for establishing such a zone in central Europe is exceptionally urgent now that the possibility is not excluded that the United States will start producing binary chemical weapons. In this situation it is of special importance to remove the chemical weapons arsenals from the territory of central Europe.

It is necessary that the countries, which border on the proposed zone, be suggested discussing this initiative and expressing their support for it. These countries could commit themselves not to store in their territory chemical arms which would be removed from the territories of the Federal Republic of Germany, the German Democratic Republic and Czechoslovakia.

Besides, these countries could join an agreement on the zone free of chemical weapons and contribute towards its extension. This call is addressed to Belgium, the Netherlands, Luxembourg, Denmark, Poland and Hungary.

The removal of chemical arms kept in the arsenals of the military-political alliances confronting each other in the heart of Europe is in the interests of the European people. The peace-minded forces, says the statement by the participants in the meeting, should not let this historic opportunity pass. Chemical weapons should be outlawed.

U.S., NATO Attitude Assailed

PM191459 Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian 16 May 86 First Edition p 1

[Aleksandr Matveyev "International Review": "Banning Chemical Weapons"]

[Text] A meeting of representatives of the CPCZ, the SED, and the Social Democratic Party of Germany has just finished in Prague. The question of creating a chemical weapons free zone in Europe was discussed. The sides, CPCZ Central Committee Secretary V. Bilak told journalists, were of the unanimous opinion that it is now more important than ever to prevent the stockpiling of chemical weapons arsenals and the production and siting of binary shells in certain West European countries.

The U.S. Administration, however, is doing its utmost to get Congress to appropriate funds for binary weapon production by 1 October 1986. Washington is also vigorously urging its allies to back the decision. A NATO bloc military planning session will begin work next week in Brussels. The main question under discussion will be the siting of U.S. binary combat munitions in Western Europe.

The implementation of such schemes undoubtedly threatens to turn the densely populated countries of Western Europe into potential theaters of chemical war of which the civilian population will be the main victim. In fact, the United States is playing a dishonest game, banking on diverting a counterstrike from its own territory and exposing its allies' population to it.

It is now more than 70 years since "silent death" weapons were used in World War I. Later, the Japanese militarists used chemical weapons during their aggression against China. And Washington has waged large-scale chemical warfare: First, against the Korean people and then against the countries of Indochina. Combat toxins killed many thousands of people and crippled millions.

And now the American strategists, who possess the largest stock of chemical weapons in the world, are undertaking a new program of "chemical rearmament." Talks on questions of chemical disarmament, long under way in Geneva, have been dragged out intolerably. In these circumstances, the Soviet Union has demonstrated a constructive approach to the problem. The 15 January statement by M.S. Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, submitted quite specific proposals on drafting, at the earliest possible date, an agreement on the destruction of chemical weapons. "The Soviet Union," the statement stresses, "advocates the earliest possible complete elimination of these weapons and the industrial base for their manufacture." Demonstrating its goodwill, the Soviet Union stated its readiness to promptly announce the location of enterprises producing these weapons; halt their production; begin drawing up a procedure to destroy the corresponding production base; and also, after the agreement has come into force, begin eliminating chemical weapons.

At the end of April, the Soviet Union submitted new proposals to the Conference on Disarmament in Geneva. They envisage, in particular, that every state party to the convention will begin the destruction of chemical weapons within 6 months and the destruction or dismantling of installations for their manufacture within 1 year of the agreement coming into force. Our proposals pay great attention to questions of verification [kontrol]. It is proposed that systematic, international on-site inspections [proverki na mestakh] be conducted.

The new Soviet initiatives cut the ground from under those who had been trying to prove that our country is opposed to strict verification [kontrol] of the observance of the agreement. The Soviet Union is as interested as anyone in strict verification [kontrol].

Interim steps would also help radically to resolve the problem of chemical disarmament. A multilateral accord not to transfer chemical weapons to anyone whatsoever or to site them on other states' territory could be one such step.

The implementation of the Warsaw Pact states' proposals to rid the European Continent of chemical weapons could also form part of the interim measures. The implementation of the GDR-CSSR joint initiative on creating a zone free of "silent death" weapons in central Europe could also be highly beneficial.

How, then, is NATO responding? Very ambiguously. On one hand the representatives of the U.S. Administration, albeit grudgingly, are saying that the Soviet ideas on chemical disarmament are "interesting" and "merit close attention." However, in practice efforts are being made in the West to play down the acuteness of the problems of disarmament in every possible way. This approach was clearly apparent at the recent Tokyo meeting of the leading capitalist powers. Its participants expended many words leveling unproven charges of terrorism against Libya and loudly trumpeted that the Soviet Union "had not given" them information about the accident at the Chernobyl AES. But there was not a word about the most important matter: how to stop the arms race. M.S. Gorbachev stressed in his Soviet television broadcast on 14 May that "there has not been a word in response to the Soviet initiatives, to our specific proposals on halting nuclear tests, ridding mankind of nuclear and chemical weapons, and reducing conventional armaments." The participants of the conference of the "Seven" clearly wanted to exploit Chernobyl to distract the world public's attention away from problems inconvenient to them but which are real and important to the whole world. Certain NATO circles are now trying to prove altogether that negotiations and, even more so, agreements with the USSR are impossible and thus to give the go-ahead to further military preparations. It is above all those who, on the threshold of the third millennium, think in Stone Age terms and continue the fruitless search for a bigger club and a heavier stone who are intent on exploiting the situation. And, aside from nuclear weapons, binary munitions are to play the role of this club in their plans.

Why are the transatlantic generals so fond of binary weapons? These combat munitions contain two components of relatively low toxicity which combine during the shell's flight to its target, producing a lethal gas. The Pentagon claims that these combat munitions can be stored without special precautions. This means, from the Pentagon standpoint, that binary weapons will be secretly sited in the immediate proximity of socialist states and also on aircraft carriers. In short, it intends to ensure their massive use at the time of aggression.

The apologists of "silent death" are not bothered that the use of chemical weapons will result in the death of millions of civilians. U.S. and NATO military experts are only concerned with a cold calculation about these barbarous weapons' potential effectiveness. Let us remember how they rushed to Bhopal after the tragedy occurred there. And they did not go there to help the Indians poisoned by the American corporation but to study the effects of chemical weapons in a densely populated city! While dreaming about a chemical blitzkrieg and making preparations for it, the Pentagon staffers are aware that the very thought of using toxins is repugnant to any normal person. And that is why in order to secure support for "chemical rearming" among the public and, most importantly, in Congress the old refrain about the "Soviets' chemical threat" is sung year in and year out.

The slanderers do not possess any facts for the simple reason that there are none. And therefore Pentagon propagandists, both official and unofficial, are busy around the clock concocting forgeries. The U.S. Defense Department only recently paid some \$1 million to retired generals whom it instructed in their capacity as "experts" to find a theoretical justification for their story of the "Soviets' chemical threat." The "theoreticians" did not think for long but simply imputed their own barbarous views of our country. And these are the conclusions they drew: "If the United States does not in the very near future create the potential for new offensive chemical weapons, it would be stupid of the Soviet Union not to use toxins against NATO forces in the next war in Europe."

It is clear that the Pentagon wants, by means of this lie, to divert the public's attention and work toward beginning the industrial production of binary weapons. And if this happens, the very question of concluding an agreement eliminating chemical weapons will be jeopardized. Problems of verification [kontrol] will become many times more complex since these weapons can be manufactured at any major chemical enterprise under the guise of production for civil purposes.

It should be noted that many of Washington's allies are greeting without enthusiasm the plans to site a new generation of "silent death" in the Old World. Only the British Government unconditionally supports the binary rearmament program. The Belgian, Netherlands, and Danish Defense Ministries have stated that the deployment of a new generation of chemical weapons on their countries' territory is impermissible. However, the U.S. representatives at the upcoming NATO bloc military planning session in Brussels will try to break the obstinate junior partners' opposition or at least somewhat stifle the voice of protest.

The U.S. actions are in direct conflict with the "spirit of Geneva." Because the meeting of the U.S. and USSR leaders expressed the desire for a general and complete ban on chemical weapons and the destruction of chemical weapons stocks. The proliferation of such weapons was also declared impermissible. The ideas formulated in recent Soviet proposals undoubtedly demonstrate our country's readiness to facilitate the destruction of "silent death" weapons in deeds rather than just words. It is time Washington demonstrated goodwill too.

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CSO: 5200/1368

CHEMICAL/BIOLOGICAL WEAPONS

SOVIET FOREIGN MINISTRY PRESS CONFERENCE ON CHEMICAL WEAPONS

Elimination of Chemical Weapons Discussed

LD201621 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1407 GMT 20 May 86

[Text] Moscow, 20 May (TASS) -- The course now being conducted by the United States and a number of its NATO allies in trying to gain bloc approval for a chemical weapons rearmament program has the potential for extremely dangerous consequences, stated Vladimir Lomeyko, head of the USSR Foreign Ministry Press Department speaking today at a news conference for Soviet and foreign journalists that was devoted to banning chemical weapons. It is no accident that our news conference is devoted to this problem, he continued. To a large extent the question is now being decided as to whether events will proceed toward the complete elimination of this barbaric means of mass destruction as is being demanded by people ever more insistently, or if the world will be hurled into an extremely dangerous spiral in a chemical race as result of initiating [razvertyvaniye] the production of a new type of these weapons -- binary weapons -- in the United States.

Also taking part in the news conference were Gennadiy Stashevskiy, deputy head of the USSR Foreign Ministry International Organizations Department; Major General Anatoliy Kuntsevich, corresponding member of the USSR Academy of Sciences; and Colonel Aleksandr Kutepov. Both of the latter are Defense Ministry experts.

The extirpation of chemical weapons is an absolutely essential element in building secure peace in the system of general security that the USSR proposes to construct with the joint efforts of all states, said Anatoliy Kuntsevich. Chemical disarmament would be of particularly beneficial importance for Europe, a continent where the extremely mighty military groups of NATO and the Warsaw Pact face each other.

Those taking part in the news conference noted that while coming out consistently for the complete elimination of nuclear weapons by the end of the century, the USSR considers it essential to achieve the complete liberation of mankind from chemical weapons in the same period too. To this end, it is making active efforts in the framework of the United Nations, at the Geneva Conference on Disarmament, and in bilateral contacts with the United States. Along with this, the USSR favors the implementation of a number of intermediate steps toward such a radical understanding, for the adoption of measures on preventing the spread of chemical weapons, and freeing individual areas of the work from them.

Washington plans to modernize its chemical arsenal using binary systems, increasing chemical ammunition stocks from 3 to 5 million units over 5 years. It is planned to spend \$10 billion on this. However, the U.S. Congress has made the actual start of binary weapons production dependent on gaining the agreement of the NATO allies for the modernization of U.S. chemical weapons. The United States will try to push through a decision in favor of producing binary weapons at the session of the NATO Planning Group at defense minister level on 21-22 May. Hence, in practice whether a new spiral in the chemical arms race begins now depends on the stand adopted by the governments of the other NATO countries on this issue.

It was noted at the news conference that Washington directly links the implementation of the U.S. plans to produce binary weapons with plans to subsequently site them in Western Europe — which threatens to turn heavily populated areas of the European Continent into a potential theater of chemical war. Meanwhile, it is primarily the civilian population, which unlike the armed forces is absolutely defenseless in the face of this barbaric means of mass annihilation, that would be the main victim.

Real prospects for success have arisen in recent months at the talks for the complete prohibition and elimination of chemical weapons in Geneva. This has become formulated into a plan of principles in the speech by CPSU Central Committee General Secretary Mikhail Gorbachev on 15 January, and then put to the Conference on Disarmament in a concrete form on 22 April by the USSR delegation. These proposals take into account the opinions of many member-states at the talks, including the United States and other Western countries. They envisage a set of measures that provides for a quick start to destroying chemical arsenals, the timely announcement of the siting of places where chemical weapons are produced, the ending of their operation, and the elimination of them under reliable systematic international control.

It is precisely at this moment that Washington and those NATO allies supporting its ambitions are setting themselves the aim of inundating our planet with new, even more concentrated chemical weapons. Those who are making the decision in favor of binary weapons must be aware of the full responsibility of the consequences of this step, it was stressed at the news conference.

Officials Respond to Questions

LD201721 Moscow TASS in English 1714 GMT 20 May 86

[Text] Moscow May 20 TASS -- A press conference for Soviet and foreign reporters devoted to the problem of banning chemical weapons was held here today. Taking part in the conference were Chief of the Press Department of the USSR Foreign Ministry Vladimir Lomeyko, Deputy Chief of the Department of the International Organizations of the USSR Foreign Ministry Gennadiy Stashevskiy, experts of the USSR Foreign Ministry -- corresponding member of the USSR Academy of Sciences Anatoliy Kuntsevich and Colonel Aleksandr Kutepov.

Answering the question as to how the matters stand with the implementation of the Soviet-U.S. agreements at the summit level, aimed at the removal of chemical danger, Gennadiy Stashevskiy said that on January 15 the USSR proposed a concrete programme of ridding humanity of chemical weapons before the end of the century. Following that, the Soviet Union submitted to the Geneva Conference on Disarmament new constructive proposals that make it possible to overcome many of the obstacles to agreeing on a number of important provisions of the convention being drafted. The United States delegation, on its part, has not taken a step toward reaching arrangement at the talks. The U.S. side is stepping up the efforts in quite a different direction: Toward a speedy implementation of a large-scale programme of chemical rearming. This approach does not agree with the Geneva arrangements at all.

Components of binary weapons can also be secretly produced on territories of various states, and this is particularly difficult to control. Hence, the very production of binary weapons is aimed at bypassing a declaration on banning chemical weapons which might be concluded. And finally, separate components can easily be camouflaged as various substances, taken to territories of other states and stored there. Moreover, other countries might follow the United States example in the production of binary weapons and then these highly dangerous and horrible weapons will proliferate all over the world.

Colonel Kutepov pointed out that implementation of the U.S. programme for the production of binary weapons would seriously poison the atmosphere at the talks on chemical weapons ban, would undermine the trust necessary for advancing the talks. Moreover, the problem of control, which, because of specific features of chemical production, is not simple as it is, would be complicated considerably.

Major General Kuntsevich refuted the allegations of Washington's representatives that components of binary charges are not dangerous. Quite the contrary, each separate component is highly toxic, to the degree of hydrogen cyanide, he said. Anatoliy Kuntsevich pointed to a very dangerous nature of the production of binary weapons. Their components can be changed during the use, which will render the adversary unprepared for defence.

Answering the question about the arrangement between the FRG and the USA, specifically on the question of the deployment of U.S. chemical weapons in the FRG territory, the participants in the press conference emphasized that this arrangement helps create a situation when the question of the appearance of binary weapons in the territory of the FRG, just as in the territories of other West European countries, is as if predetermined, and this is the essence of the matter. On the whole, the participants in the press conference noted, the FRG is obediently fulfilling all the plans worked out in Washington. Suffice it to recall the deployment of U.S. medium-range nuclear missiles in Europe, other plans to deploy offensive armaments in the European theatre, and the SDI programme.

The point of the matter now is the deployment of an additional arsenal of chemical weapons which are advanced to forward positions close to Warsaw Treaty countries, the Soviet Union, which seriously aggravates the situation in the European theatre and particularly in the FRG zone.

It was pointed out at the press conference that the Soviet Union supports and highly appreciates the initiatives of the governments of the German Democratic Republic, the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic, the People's Republic of Bulgaria and the Socialist Republic of Romania to create zones free from chemical weapons in central Europe and in the Balkans. The Soviet Union views these initiatives as a contribution to the efforts aimed at ridding peoples of the European Continent of chemical menace as soon as possible.

Touching upon the question of the possibility of unilateral moratorium on the production and testing of chemical weapons patterned on the moratorium on nuclear explosions, Major General Kuntsevich noted that the Soviet Union, unlike the United States, does not see special advantages of chemical weapons and does not stockpile these weapons. Vladimir Lomeyko stressed in this connection that in this sphere there cannot be unilateral advance over a long period of time and there cannot be only unilateral proposals from the Soviet Union. The proposals on chemical weapons set forth by the Soviet side in Geneva await their implementation, await a favourable attitude from Western powers.

CHEMICAL/BIOLOGICAL WEAPONS

MOSCOW: FIRE AT UK LAB SHOWS BIOLOGICAL WEAPONS DANGERS

LD081548 Moscow World Service in English 1310 GMT 8 May 86

[Commentary by Viktor Glazov]

[Text] The French news agency has reported that on 1 May a fire destroyed a laboratory at a top secret chemical research complex at Porton Down, Wiltshire. Fortunately, components of biological weapons did not leak into the atmosphere. Viktor Glazov makes the following comment.

It is hard to imagine the consequences of the possible disaster. The densely populated areas of Britain could have suffered severe losses. The catastrophe could have affected areas far beyond the British Isles. Biological weapons were tested at Gruinard Island, off the northwestern coast of Scotland, during World War II. To this day any person who dares to step on the island is in deadly danger of contamination. Pentagon documents declassified in the early 1950's proved that the United States had closely cooperated with research and testing organizations in the United Kingdom in the sphere of developing biological weapons. Thirty years later, the British press reported that test tubes with deadly micro-organisms apparently continued traveling across the Atlantic. In the British Isles they disappear at laboratories of the military-chemical complex in Porton Down.

According to other press sources, Britain now actually holds the lead among the West European NATO countries in preparations for the use of chemical and biological weapons. In June 1981 THE TIMES spoke of long cherished plans of using biological weapons for offensive purposes. It said that as far back as in 1946 Britain made plans of nuclear bombardments and biological attacks on the Soviet Union. There is every reason to think that such old traditions of developing biological weapons have led to the stockpiling of the deadly mass annihilation arms in the territory of the country. The recent incident in Porton Down showed the danger of storing such weapons even in peaceful times.

In the early 1980's the bacteriological warfare laboratory, placed in the hands of the Department of Health, was returned to the Defense Ministry because of repeatedly new needs in the sphere of bacteriological warfare. This means new tests, studies and weapons, the slightest leakage of which can threaten the population and cause an uncontrolled situation. Meanwhile, the agreement banning the development, production, and storing of biological weapons came into force back in 1975. The document combined the steps to scrap bacteriological weapons or use them for peaceful needs with efforts to protect the population and environment. The fire in Porton Down was extremely dangerous. The assurances of the British officials that there was no leakage of a most dangerous type of modern weapons cannot disperse anxiety over the continuing preparations of Britain for warfare involving the use of bacteriological arms.

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CSO: 5200/1368

CHEMICAL/BIOLOGICAL WEAPONS

AIDS IN CENTRAL AMERICA CALLED U.S. GERM WARFARE EXPERIMENT

Moscow LITERATURNAYA GAZETA in Russian No 14, 2 Apr 86 p 9

[Article by LITERATURNAYA GAZETA correspondent Vladimir Vesenskiy under the rubric "The Fact Behind the Scenes": "Epidemic From the North?"]

[Text] A means of combating the SPID [AIDS] virus soon will be found! Salvation will come from the north! With such reports Washington is trying to calm the alarmed population of the countries of Latin America, where now many are speaking about this mysterious disease. But so far not salvation, but an AIDS epidemic is coming from the north.

In August of last year in Panama I learned accidentally about the fact that in one of the American hospitals cases of illness of U. S. military servicemen with the AIDS virus had been registered. The American military command asked the local authorities to take immediate measures to test and isolate prostitutes who were immigrants from the Dominican Republic, since, they said, the illness is most widespread in that country and on Haiti.

This information did not receive official confirmation and the press was also silent. Why? Is it not, asked my Panamanian colleagues, that these women having come in contact with American servicemen, became carriers of the deadly virus and could threaten the clientele of the brothels, the majority of whom consist of soldiers, tourists and businessmen from the U. S.?

On 7 March of this year Agence France-Presse and the Spanish EFE reported that a doctor at an American military hospital in (Palmerol), Honduras, detected AIDS among prostitutes from a public house for U. S. military servicemen. And again the Americans tried to place all the blame on the local population.

This news caused a flareup of indignation in Honduras. The fact that U. S. military bases are breeding grounds of venereal diseases has long been known. But AIDS! The Honduran parliament demanded that American units be moved farther away from populated areas and isolated from the population. Ubiquitous journalists elucidated through their channels that the first carrier of the AIDS virus in Honduras was an American military serviceman, who arrived in the country in 1982.

The alarm of Panama, Honduras and the other Latin American countries is understandable. The illness may become a national calamity for them. With a shortage of means of treatment and with millions of people who have never seen a doctor, AIDS is capable of spreading like the plague. It is terrible to think what misfortunes it could bring to the Third World.

Several years ago I was involved in investigating biological sabotage by the U. S. special services against Cuba. "Medics" from Langley then tried with the aid of dengue fever to paralyze life on the island. The similarity inevitably rises in the mind. One begins to understand the international experts who consider the AIDS virus the result of scientific (if this can be called science) experiments by U. S. military specialists, working to develop new types of biological weapons. The AIDS virus, experts assert, could have either unintentionally slipped out of the laboratories, for example, through accidentally infected soldiers from the vicinity of these facilities, or the civilian population could have been intentionally infected. I remind any one to whom such cruelty seems improbable of the publication in LITERATURNAYA GAZETA (No. 5, 1982), which discussed a certain American named (Nelin) who had carried out experiments in Pakistan on the local peasants. He paid them \$3 each and placed mosquitos infected with dengue fever and other dangerous illnesses to bite them. Apropos of this, after the publication (Nelin) had to be urgently sent home.

And now we have AIDS. The American press, apparently at the dictates of the Pentagon, is insistently striving to prove that the virus originated in Central Africa, and sometimes calls Haiti its "birthplace." Why not the U. S.? The answer is "convincing:" According to American laws experiments with such kinds of viruses on U. S. territory are prohibited. If research is carried out, it is on the territories of other countries and with the agreement of their governments. Or without such agreement, as was the case with the American laboratory in Pakistan.

9069

CSO: 5200/1346

CHEMICAL/BIOLOGICAL WEAPONS

ITALY REITERATES STAND ON CHEMICAL WEAPONS

AU191636 Rome ANSA in English 1020 GMT 19 May 86

[Text] (ANSA) Rome, May 19 — Italy reiterated its total condemnation of chemical arms over the weekend and said it continues to give "absolute priority" to the rapid conclusion of an accord which would ban such weapons.

Both the Premier's Office and the Foreign Ministry reiterated the Italian position with reference to the recent meeting of the NATO Defense Planning Committee in Brussels when the U.S. said it would produce "binary" chemical weapons.

The Farnesina said that the committee meeting had led to no change in the position of Italy which insists on the absolute need to respect norms of international law which prohibit the use of chemical arms and wants to see an international agreement that would ban production and detention of such arms as well.

Under the U.S. scheme, the "binary" weapons mentioned at the NATO committee meeting would be produced and stocked exclusively on American territory in time of peace. Their eventual deployment in Europe -- in case of attack or threat of attack with chemical weapons by Eastern Europe -- would be subordinated to consultation among the allies and, in any case, to the explicit consent of any individual states involved.

In these terms, there was general recognition among the committee members of the legitimacy of U.S. efforts to bring its deterrent in this field to the level of the existing Soviet threat.

The Premier's Office Saturday stressed that the problem of the modernization of chemical weapons was a defense goal of the United States and so long as the production and stocking of these new "binary" weapons were confined within the United States, the allies could not pose impediments or conditions. Nevertheless, Italy would work to give new impetus to negotiations underway to stipulate a verifiable and total ban on all chemical arms, the Premier's Office said.

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CHEMICAL/BIOLOGICAL WEAPONS

BRIEFS

CRAZI LETTER TO REAGAN—Prime Minister Bettino Craxi has sent a personal message to President Reagan on the subject of arms control and reduction. According to what we have heard from Palazzo Chigi, the message particularly concerns the problem of the observance of the SALT agreement. On this subject Reagan had entrusted his special adviser, Meese, to describe to the Italian Government the U.S. administration's position. Meanwhile, certain indications of Italy's position on chemical weapons have emanated from the Palazzo today. First and foremost, stress is laid on Italy's full support for a more decisive impulse to be given to the negotiations in progress on concluding a verifiable agreement on a total ban of all chemical weapons. It is further stressed that Italy does not produce, does not deploy, and does not intend to deploy chemical weapons and is ready to accept any type of verification on its territory. Finally, regarding the modernization of chemical weapons in the United States, it is stressed that any decisions made in this regard would involve only the U.S. Government. [Text] [Rome International Service in Italian 1555 GMT 17 May 86 LD] /9274

CSO: 5200/2689

NUCLEAR TESTING AND FREE ZONE PROPOSALS

IZVESTIYA: EUROPEAN REACTION TO TEST BAN PROPOSAL

Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 5 Apr 86 p 5

[Discussion with IZVESTIYA correspondents Aleksandr Krivopalov in England and Mikhail Ilinskiy in Italy, conducted by IZVESTIYA special correspondent Vladimir Lapskiy, under the rubric "On the Wire to London and Rome": "Time Does Not Wait, Time Flies"]

[Text] The Soviet Union proposed that negotiations begin immediately on a total nuclear test ban, including the question of verification. This proposal, as is known, was made a few days ago in a speech by Comrade M. S. Gorbachev on Soviet television. He stated: "I am ready in the very near future to meet with President Reagan in London or Rome, or any other European capital..."

[Lapskiy] How was the proposal by the Soviet leader received in London? What responses did it raise among the British?

[Krivopalov] To many British people the Soviet idea about such a possible meeting in the very near future seemed entirely natural. Was Britain not a partner of the USSR and U. S. in the past in trilateral negotiations on this topic? Moreover, recently combined British-American explosions were carried out in Nevada. Extensive circles of the British public are profoundly concerned about the participation of their country in the nuclear arms race at this particularly dangerous and undoubtedly crucial stage. In short, there are more than enough arguments supporting the utility of an urgent summit meeting. All the opposition parties want official London to undertake specific, independent steps in this direction.

For example, in the opinion of the leader of the Social Democrats, former secretary of state for foreign and commonwealth affairs D. Owen, the British prime minister should personally request that the leaders of the USSR and U. S. resume trilateral negotiations on concluding an all-encompassing treaty, which bans the testing of all types of nuclear weapons. Owen called upon Britain to play a truly constructive role here.

[Lapskiy] How are public organizations reacting?

[Krivopalov] I just spoke with Alan Davis, a representative of the organization Lawyers for Nuclear Disarmament. In my opinion he accurately defined the position of the whole anti-war movement in the British Isles: "The obstacles which people attempt to place in the path of negotiations on a total nuclear weapons test ban, as the Soviet Union proposed to conduct, cause us great concern and alarm. Everyone understands what is going on. Washington and London planned a series of tests and do not want to renounce them. This is distressing. But we cannot limit ourselves to emotions alone. We must act. Peaceloving forces must force the Washington administration, as well as the British government, to sit at the negotiating table. I speak of this with full responsibility as a lawyer and an Englishman."

[Lapskiy] What is the reaction to the Soviet proposal in Italy?

[Ilinskiy] Everyone with whom I spoke welcomed it. My interlocutors emphasized that this is the very time to halt nuclear testing. At the Catholic Italian press alliance I met with (Bruno Olini), its deputy chairman. He stated: "The Soviet Union is meeting the expectations of the peoples and is affirming with deeds the statements uttered in Geneva. We took note of the fact that for the USSR any variants of negotiations are acceptable. It should be welcomed if Rome were mentioned among the possible places for negotiations. In our opinion all of Western Europe must assist in the political dialogue." Here are the words of Italian public figure (Renato Rossetti). "Our city is remarkable for its hospitality and expansive spirit. It was good to hear that the Italian capital was named among possible places for a summit meeting."

[Lapskiy] The Soviet proposal, as is known, evoked a quick and negative reaction from the White House. It was stated there that the United States is lagging in the development of nuclear weapons and, therefore, the tests would continue. What do Englishmen think about this?

[Krivopalov] Such an ostentatious refusal on the part of Washington caused numerous protests in Britain. The mood of ordinary Britishers is reflected, in particular, in the letters published on the pages of GUARDIAN. One of the authors, (K. Hine), from London, recalls that the "star wars" program presumes the continuation of explosions in Nevada and the testing of new weapons systems. (R. Webster) from the city of Poole in Dorchester, giving a high assessment to the peaceloving steps of the USSR, which announced unilateral moratoriums on nuclear testing, asked the question: "Why does the U. S. not halt testing? Is it due to a lack of real political will? Or perhaps Washington is simply not interested in achieving any agreements on weapons control? Decide for yourselves which of the two powers is subjecting international security to the greatest risk."

[Lapskiy] What did the Italians feel when they learned that the United States did not desire to give a favorable answer to the Soviet proposal?

[Ilinskiy] They were disappointed. This is indicated by many statements and commentaries in the local press. The same (Bruno Olini) told me: "Washington stubbornly calls the Soviet initiatives 'propagandistic.' But what is the purpose for this label, when the realistic and specific foundation for the Soviet proposals can be clearly seen."

[Lapskiy] Apparently, there are also in England others who are defending Washington's position. What arguments do they use?

[Krivopalov] Their main, allow me to say, argument is the following. Nuclear explosions, they say, are not subject to verification and therefore must continue. Such arguments, you yourselves understand, are not worth a wooden nickel. The London GUARDIAN, for example, published commentaries of its scientific reviewer. Relying on the conclusion of international experts who have studied the issue of measures of verification over nuclear tests for the U.N., he writes: "The modern system of electronic detectors completely excludes the possibility for carrying out secret explosions."

[Lapskiy] It must be that not everyone in Britain knows about the latest Soviet specification regarding the monitoring of nuclear tests...

[Krivopalov] This is entirely true. On this account the British are poorly informed. A few days ago I held a rather long discussion with Field Marshal Lord Carver. Far from all of his judgements and assessments seemed fair to me. Nevertheless, this authoritative man and highly experienced, professional military person expressed categorical disagreement with Washington's SDI program. In the opinion of Lord Carver it represents a three-fold risk.

[Lapskiy] What did he have in mind?

[Krivopalov] The first risk is that SDI is dangerous on a technological plane. Everything is entrusted to electronics. The program can be truly tested only under conditions of nuclear war. The second risk is that the program is disturbing in its purely military aspects. As is known, every new weapons system gives rise to countermeasures by the other side. The third risk is that SDI is associated with complications related to its political characteristics. The USSR will have a stronger basis to speak about the threat of a first strike. The USSR will not permit the approximate military equality with the U. S. to be destroyed.

[Lapskiy] The Italian government has repeatedly stated that it is prepared to facilitate halting the arms race and to contribute to the successful conduct and conclusion of Soviet-American negotiations in Geneva on nuclear and space weapons. Today it adopted a resolution to permit Italian firms to take part in the American program for implementation of SDI.

[Ilinskiy] Many Italians are unhappy with this decision. Government representatives say that Italy's participation in "star wars" preparations is limited to research. But the fact is that the country is gradually being drawn into implementing American plans directed at the militarization of space. While speaking about its desire for peace and its adherence to the cause of limiting and reducing nuclear weapons, the Italian government is, in fact, taking a step in the opposite direction.

9069

CSO: 5200/1346

NUCLEAR TESTING AND FREE ZONE PROPOSALS

PRAVDA EDITORIAL ARTICLE ON NUCLEAR TEST BAN

PM231642 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 24 May 86 First Edition p 4

[Editorial article: "The Prohibition of Nuclear Weapon Testing Is a Matter for All Peoples"]

[Text] The situation that has taken shape in the world at the present time demands of statesmen and public figures and of every person on earth as never before an understanding of the danger point that the world has reached in our time. The unprecedented arms race being forced on by Washington and its NATO allies on earth and the U.S. project for transferring it to space, the stockpiling of mountains of nuclear and missile weapons, and the Pentagon plans for stuffing Europe full of yet another type of barbaric weapon in the form of binary chemical weapons have all served to confront mankind with a stark choice. What must be done to halt a further slide toward thermo-nuclear disaster? The fact is that nuclear weapons -- the creature of imperialism -- embody forces capable of destroying all the achievements of civilization.

Recognition of the scale of the danger inherent in these weapons has begun to be shown particularly extensively now that people throughout the world are reflecting on what follows when nuclear energy gets out of control, as occurred in connection with the accident at the Chernobyl AES. The numerous instances of accidents and radioactive discharges at American and West European nuclear power stations, which the world public has recently been learning about in detail, also gives pause for thought here. No matter how the Western propaganda mouthpieces may try to inflate the scale of the trouble caused by the Chernobyl accident in their shameless fabrications, they are unable to conceal the fact that the scale of that misfortune bears no comparison with what threatens mankind if nuclear war is brought down on it. The nuclear arsenals stockpiled throughout the world contain the seeds of thousands and thousands of disasters much more terrible than Chernobyl.

And that is the main point right now. Anyone who is concerned not just in words but in reality for the destiny of mankind and for its present and future is bound to come to the same conclusion. This is convincingly confirmed by the universal sharpening of attention to nuclear questions and above all to the problems of halting tests and limiting and reducing, and then of completely eliminating, one of the most dangerous means of mass destruction. Guided by the security interests of its own people and all mankind, the Soviet state has proposed a wide-scale program for averting thermo-nuclear war and eliminating mass destruction weapons before the end of the 20th century. It was expounded in the 15 January 1985 statement by M.S. Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, and fully approved by the 27th CPSU Congress.

Because of the U.S. ruling circles' unwillingness to take the path of an extensive review of their policy of nuclear confrontation with the Soviet Union and the other socialist states, our country believes that in the interests of improving the international situation it is time to make some kind of start [s chego-to nachinat], to get things moving, and to set an example. Guided by these considerations, the Soviet Union has proposed starting with the simplest and most readily achievable steps that can be separated out from the overall context without upsetting the balance in the correlation of forces or anyone's security, namely the elimination of medium-range missiles in Europe and the halting of nuclear tests. How timely and far-sighted these steps are may be judged from the reaction they have engendered throughout the world.

The Soviet moratorium on nuclear tests encountered the support of all peace-loving forces in the international arena. Dozens of states in Europe, Asia, Africa, and America issued demands that the United States follow the Soviet Union's example. More than two-thirds of U.S. citizens came out in support of the moratorium. The demand for the end to nuclear testing was reflected in decisions of the UN General Assembly where 120 states voted for an appropriate resolution.

The will of hundreds and hundreds of millions of people is expressed in the well-known appeal by the leaders of six states -- Argentina, Greece, Mexico, India, Tanzania, and Sweden -- to the leaders of the USSR and the United States.

The struggle for the prohibition of nuclear tests has assumed such a broad scale that it can be rightly described as the vital concern of all peoples. This is generating fury in the camp of those who reject the idea of a moratorium and who would like to continue to keep the world in their nuclear sights. Is this not the reason why the members of the antinuclear movement in the United States, Britain, and a number of other NATO countries are being cruelly persecuted? Police batons are used to rain down blows on them; they are thrown behind bars and put in the dock for their antiwar convictions and for their devotion to the ideals of peace and freedom. The special services and the bourgeois propaganda mouthpieces are waging an unbridled "psychological war" against the supporters of nuclear disarmament.

All the same, the forces of reaction and war are not able to curb those who have come to realize the awesome danger hanging over the world through the fault of the nuclear maniacs. Many eminent scientists -- Nobel Prize winners -- recently issued statements demanding that the arms race be halted, that nuclear explosions be stopped, and that the way be opened to agreement on banning all nuclear tests. Weeks of action in defense of peace are being held on all continents, and at mass rallies petitions are being adopted calling on governments to embark on the road of active support for the peace initiatives of the Soviet Union and other proposals aimed at curbing the forces of aggression and war.

The biggest international and national antiwar organizations are holding conferences and meetings at which declarations are being adopted calling on the broad masses of the people to make their contribution to the solution of the most pressing problem of our time -- ending the nuclear arms race on earth and preventing it from gaining access to space. These organizations are deeply convinced that the most important condition for the transformation of 1986 into a real International Year of Peace would be the total cessation of nuclear tests in the immediate future and the reaching of understanding between all interested powers on the conclusion of an agreement totally prohibiting these tests.

Our country is fully determined to do everything in its power to achieve this noble goal and to back up by deeds its foreign policy aims. This is borne out by the

decision made this month by our government to extend the unilateral Soviet moratorium on nuclear tests until 6 August this year. This decision was announced 14 May by M.S. Gorbachev speaking on Soviet television. This act of goodwill is being received with tremendous enthusiasm by millions of people in all countries.

Banning nuclear tests today means halting the further improvement of various kinds of nuclear weapons and barring the path to the creation [sorzaniye] of space-based strike weapons.

It is clear to everyone that the planet can be rid of nuclear tests. It is merely up to the U.S. side. Aware of this, the peoples demand that the United States follow the USSR's example, that the White House administration weigh with utmost responsibility the extent of the danger hanging over the world and heed the voice of the world community which insists on an end to nuclear tests.

The Soviet Union calls on the United States to go further, not to limit itself merely to ending explosions but also to positively resolve the specific question of banning nuclear tests, a question that perturbs everyone. It was for this purpose that the general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee proposed holding an immediate meeting with the U.S. President in the capital of any European state or in Hiroshima. Such a meeting, if it were to take place and be crowned with positive results, would clear the way for the conclusion of an international treaty on a general and complete ban on nuclear weapon tests.

Much is being said and written in the United States about the supposed nuclear superiority of the USSR, this being an attempt to justify the continuing nuclear explosions in the United States. It was proved a long time ago that these claims are totally groundless. We do not pursue military superiority, but we will not forego our security either. An end to nuclear tests would not bring any advantages to either side. This is axiomatic. However, the continuation of tests is aimed at smashing the prevailing balance of forces. This, actually, is what the opponents of the moratorium and the conclusion of a nuclear weapon test ban agreement are counting on; namely the ones who conducted the latest nuclear explosion at the Nevada test site on 21 May, the 11th explosion since 6 August 1985 when the Soviet Union announced the unilateral moratorium on all nuclear explosions.

It is easy to imagine the gain that would accrue to the cause of peace all over the world in the event that an agreement on the end to nuclear tests is concluded. After all, a ban on nuclear weapon tests accords with the vital interests of all peoples. The interdependence of the security of all states in our nuclear age has become so close that its violation in one region in the event of a nuclear conflict would inevitably create a lethal threat for the whole world.

This is why we believe, and this viewpoint is shared today by a growing number of states in the international arena, that the United States must display a new and realistic approach toward the Soviet proposals and initiatives. What is needed at a time when the world is sliding down the slope toward a nuclear war are approaches and criteria that are different from the ones that have up to now guided the White House administration, and the U.S. military-industrial complex which stands behind it, in the determination of its foreign policy and military-strategic course.

Time imperatively dictates the necessity of giving up the groundless and illusory hopes that nuclear missile superiority can be attained by the United States, the chauvinistic intoxication of the great power policy of "neoglobalism" and its loathsome manifestation -- state terrorism. This would be to the benefit both for the United States and also for the cause of preserving peace all over the world.

It is time, it has long been high time that Washington heed the clearly expressed will of the whole of mankind, demanding that nuclear tests be ended and banned.

RELATED ISSUES

TASS REBUTS REAGAN STATISTICS ON ARMS RACE

LD221243 Moscow TASS in English 1220 GMT 22 May 86

[Text] Moscow May 22 TASS -- By TASS military writer Vladimir Bogachev

U.S. President Ronald Reagan has announced that during the last five years, that is during his White House tenure, the Soviet Union has out-built all NATO countries, including the United States, in fighter planes and bombers fifty times over.

He also asserted that the NATO allies were hopelessly lagging behind the USSR in the production of tanks, artillery pieces, submarines and ballistic missiles. The President's claims, made during a television talk show with American students, startled journalists and administration officials alike.

Reading the transcript of the conversation, one involuntarily recalls the President's previous remarks, including the one alleging that a nuclear missile launched from a submarine could be ordered back if necessary...[TASS ellipsis]

No one, including the American students whom the President addressed, believed what he said this time either. Even the loyal Larry Speakes, White House deputy press secretary failed to confirm Reagan's remarks, saying only that the figures were being checked.

Speakes' reply alone shows that the figures were spun out of thin air. No one even took notice of the contradiction between the U.S. "lag" and Reagan's remark during the same talk that the situation was rectified during his stay in the White House.

Journalists did pay attention not so much to the fact of the distortion by the President in comparing the military industries of the USSR and the U.S. -- everyone got used to that -- but the scale of falsification.

As a matter of fact, President Reagan's address to the students was timed to coincide with the intensification of the campaign for a greater military budget.

During the last five years, as is known, the U.S. Administration spent more than a trillion dollars on military purposes. The following question arises: Isn't the President going to increase U.S. military spending fifty times, that is up to fifty trillion dollars, within the next five years?

Pentagon officials were worried in the beginning too. They feared that Reagan would accept the USSR's proposal for a "freeze" on nuclear potentials so as to prevent the broadening of the purported lag of the U.S. But Reagan quickly comforted the officials from the Department of Defence by saying to the American students that "you would and you can" fight.

To what extent Reagan would like to increase military spending in the next five years is difficult to say. When he will fulfil his promise to the American students about their taking part in war is unclear either.

One thing is clear, though. It is that Washington is not going to give up the frenzied arms race. The President's assurances about his desire to agree on arms cuts give rise to the same mistrust as his latest fictional figures about the U.S. and NATO lag in the military field.

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CSO: 5200/1396

RELATED ISSUES

MOSCOW HITS CARRINGTON, LISTS CONCRETE SOVIET PROPOSALS

LD292124 Moscow in English to Great Britain and Ireland 1900 GMT 29 May 86

[Text] The secretary general of NATO, Lord Carrington, has challenged the Soviet Union to back its ideas for disarmament with concrete proposals that can be negotiated. He claims that Moscow has made a series of statements to influence public opinion, but where are the real concrete Soviet proposals, he enquires? Our commentator Nikolay Borin is here in the studio. Nikolay, do you think Lord Carrington is familiar with the Soviet proposals on this score?

[Borin] I hope he has had time to read about them not only in the press. Concreteness is exactly what Moscow is pressing for now. In Geneva it has put forward a very concrete and radical proposal to scrap Soviet and American intermediate range missiles in Europe. Their only condition is that Britain and France shouldn't increase their nuclear forces, powerful as they are (on the European scale). The plan could serve as a foundation for important agreements.

The Soviet leader, Mikhail Gorbachev, recently offered to meet President Ronald Reagan with the purpose of outlining a concrete agreement on a nuclear test ban. On the 22d of last month the Soviet Union proposed a no less clear draft agreement to ban war chemicals. All these initiatives are supposed to help overcome the existing differences on the issue -- I mean a notable expansion of verification measures, including on-site inspection of the facilities producing war chemicals.

And now as for conventional armaments: The Warsaw Treaty countries are just about to propose a detailed program of talks and the proposals concerning the entire territory of Europe from the Atlantic to the Urals. I think Lord Carrington can complain of anything but a lack of concrete Soviet proposals that could become a subject of concrete talks any day.

[Question] Now, what's the reason then for Lord Carrington's harsh tone?

[Borin] You see, he was addressing an audience of NATO countries which are extremely alarmed by the intentions of the United States to undermine the SALT II treaty. If we use military terms, we can say that the secretary general conducted a softening-up operation for the Americans. This will be followed by an American diplomatic offensive against the entire set of Soviet-American understandings which now restrain ambitious American military programs. You see, the antiballistic missile treaty as well as SALT II is now threatened. At the same time most NATO countries feel that it is time to hold talks that could strengthen existing agreements on arms control. So Lord Carrington is apparently alarmed by the situation that has taken shape just before the beginning of the conference in Halifax and is ready to do everything in support of the American attempt.

RELATED ISSUES

SPAIN'S GONZALEZ DISCUSSES ARMS ISSUES WITH SOVIET LEADERS

Ryzhkov, Gonzalez Begin Talks

LD191915 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1700 GMT 19 May 86

[From the "Vremya" newscast]

[Excerpts] Talks began today between Nikolay Ivanovich Ryzhkov and Felipe Gonzalez.

During the talks, the sides noted with satisfaction that the USSR and Spain have contact points on a number of important aspects on international life. This creates the possibility for expanding the spheres of mutual understanding, and for the joint or parallel action of the two countries to strengthen peace, trust, security, and cooperation in Europe and beyond its borders. The sides recognized that broad, productive dialogue at all levels -- political, parliamentary, and public -- was an essential element in normal, healthy relations between East and West. They expressed the mutual conviction that the constructive character of relations between the Soviet Union and Spain serves not only the vital interests of the peoples of both countries, but also the cause of strengthening international peace and cooperation. Emphasis was put on the significance of developing a political dialogue between the USSR and Spain at various levels. Political dialogue is an irreplaceable instrument for the growth of trust and mutual understanding, for establishing cooperation both in resolving bilateral issues and in the context of assistance to settle the more urgent problems of the situations in Europe, the Mediterranean, and the whole world.

Felipe Gonzalez' attention was drawn to the Soviet peace initiatives, including the strengthening of an international procedure for the safe development of nuclear power engineering, proposed by Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev in his Soviet television speech of 14 May, and the Soviet Union's decision to extend its unilateral moratorium on nuclear tests until 6 August.

On his part, Felipe Gonzalez confirmed the Spanish Government's intention to assist in strengthening peace and curbing the arms race. He appraised highly recent Soviet initiatives in the disarmament sphere, emphasizing that they would give a significant impetus to efforts aimed at reducing and eliminating weapons.

Taking part in the talks on the Soviet side were Shevardnadze, Talyzin, and other comrades. On the Spanish side were officials accompanying Felipe Gonzalez.

PRAVDA Lists Talks Participants

[Editorial Report]

Moscow PRAVDA in Russian on 21 May carries in its First Edition on page 1 a TASS report under the headline "On an Official Visit" which reports on the talks held between N.I. Ryzhkov, CPSU Central Committee Politburo member and USSR Council of Ministers chairman, and Spanish Prime Minister Felipe Gonzalez on 19 May. The PRAVDA report has been compared with the Moscow Television Service Russian version published in the 21 May Soviet Union DAILY REPORT, page C 1, revealing the following variation:

Penultimate paragraph, last line PRAVDA concludes: and environmental protection.

The following took part in the talks: on the Soviet side -- G.I. Marchuk, deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers; B.I. Aristov, USSR minister of foreign trade; A.G. Kovalev, USSR first deputy foreign minister; A.I. Kachanov, first deputy chairman of the USSR State Committee for Foreign Economic Relations; and S.K. Romanovskiy, USSR ambassador to Spain; and on the Spanish side -- F. Fernandez Ordonez, foreign minister; C. Solchaga, minister of economy and finance; J. Solana, minister of culture and official government spokesman; J.L. Xifra, Spanish ambassador to the USSR; J. Feo, secretary to the prime minister; G. del la Dehesa, secretary general of the Trade Administration; E. Santos, assistant secretary of the Industry and Power Administration; J.L. Yanez-Barnuevo, chief of the International Section of the Government Chancellery; S. Salas, head of chancellery to the foreign minister; and J. Esquerro, director general of the Foreign Ministry Administration for European Countries' Foreign Policy. (supplying additional names)

Ryzhkov Dinner Speech

PM211129 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 21 May First Edition p 1

[Text] [Moscow TASS International Service in Russian at 1620 GMT on 19 May transmits a report on Ryzhkov's speech, which adds the following: "A dinner in honor of Prime Minister Felipe Gonzalez and his wife was given on behalf of the Soviet Government in the Grand Kremlin Palace on 19 May. The officials accompanying Gonzalez on his visit were also present at the dinner. Present from the Soviet side were: Nikolay Ryzhkov and his wife; Geydar Aliyev; Eduard Shevardnadze; Petr Demichev; Nikolay Talyzin and Aleksandr Yakovlev, deputy chairmen of the USSR Council of Ministers; USSR ministers, chairmen of the USSR State Committees, and other officials. Nikolay Ryzhkov, CPSU Central Committee Politburo member and chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, delivered a speech at the dinner."]

Your visit to the Soviet Union, my dear Mr Gonzalez, is convincing evidence of the fact that Soviet-Spanish relations and contacts have attained a good level. Indicative of this is the fact that this is the first visit by a head of the Spanish Government in the entire history of relations between our countries. The Soviet leadership welcomes their development and intends to continue promoting them in a comprehensive way in the future. In assessing the accomplishments, one cannot fail to mention that we appreciate the trip to the Soviet Union made by King Juan Carlos I in the summer of 1984.

Our two states, located at the opposite ends of Europe, are separated geographically from each other. There are also other differences: for instance, the character of the social setup, the place in the system of political alliances. However, the universal principle of peaceful coexistence, of which the Soviet Union remains a convinced advocate, holds that such differences should not be an obstacle in the way of normal, mutually beneficial relations if they are developed by both sides on the basis of goodwill, mutual respect, and noninterference.

The Soviet people's attitude toward the Spaniards is that of sincere sympathy. They have always welcomed in a friendly way the Spanish people's striving for progress and for democratization of social life. As far as we can judge, goodwill between our peoples is mutual and it is deep-rooted. The Soviet Union is prepared to expand cooperation with Spain and to increase its political dialogue with it. It is in the interests of both countries that our political consultations be imparted a regular character and for greater dynamism to be exhibited in mutually beneficial exchanges in the economic, scientific and technological, and cultural spheres.

The talks which began today and the forthcoming meeting between Spanish Prime Minister Gonzalez and CPSU General Secretary Mikhail Gorbachev will initiate, we hope, a new stage in developing Soviet-Spanish relations in various areas.

The importance of this Soviet-Spanish meeting is not merely bilateral. It accords, in our opinion, with the joint efforts by many nations in favor of easing tension and restoring the policy of detente. In order to look jointly for opportunities to radically improve the situation in Europe and the world, and in order to strengthen trust, there is no other way but to broaden contacts, consultations, and constructive exchanges -- everything that is covered by the common notion of East-West dialogue.

The problems facing mankind in the last decades of the 20th century demand unusual, innovative approaches. In response to this demand, the Soviet Union offers a comprehensive program for restructuring international relations on new, sensible foundations.

This aim is served by the plan for a stage-by-stage movement aimed at ridding the world of nuclear weapons by the year 2000. This aim is served by the steps directed at preventing an arms race in outer space and promoting widespread international cooperation in its peaceful uses. This aim is served by the proposal of the 27th CPSU Congress for establishing the foundations of a comprehensive security system to encompass the military, political, economic, and humanitarian spheres. Finally, in line with that are our initiatives on the elimination of chemical weapons and sharp cuts in conventional arms and armed forces in Europe.

Hard as the path of attaining this objective might be, it has to be taken in order to ensure the survival of mankind. Goodwill and readiness for sensible compromises will be required from every state. No one should doubt the Soviet Union's intention to act persistently and purposefully together with its allies and friends for the sake of maintaining and strengthening peace.

We also declare, just as definitely, that the attempts to exert pressure on the Soviet Union, to achieve unilateral advantages and violate military-strategic parity will not succeed. In the nuclear and space age, states, especially large ones, bear immense responsibility for preventing the crossing of the line separating the world from the irreparable. It is totally inadmissible to play with the destinies of peace by resorting to military adventures.

Is there any other assessment of the U.S. armed attack on Libya? Can one agree that this or that state should assume the right to carry out punitive operations, no matter under what pretext, against other sovereign states? The international community cannot allow arbitrariness and chaos to prevail in international relations.

The Soviet Union and Spain are directly concerned by the developments on the European Continent. We note with satisfaction that there is much in common in the approaches of our countries to European problems.

How do we view today the overdue tasks of European politics?

First of all, it is important to complete the first stage of the Stockholm Conference with positive results. That is possible and it is quite realistic, given a mutual desire to achieve accords. But as all signs indicate, that is precisely what some of our Western partners so far lack. Otherwise, it is difficult to explain why the conference has stalled. The success or the failure of Stockholm is, in the present situation, the touchstone of one's readiness to strive by deeds, not by words, to diminish the threat of war on our continent and to really strengthen trust. This is necessary both in itself, and for a new all-European meeting in Vienna. I think that Spain, like the Soviet Union, would like the Vienna meeting to adopt a decision to turn to the second phase of the conference to deal with disarmament in Europe. This would impart a new impetus to the development of the Helsinki process in all its aspects.

Ridding Europe of the burden of armaments, especially nuclear ones, has become the most urgent need. Our attitude toward the position of Spain, which does not wish to have nuclear weapons on its territory, is that of understanding and respect. The Soviet Union, for its part, has advanced large-scale and constructive proposals that largely take into account the concerns and worries of West Europeans.

We hope that they have not yet given their final word in response to our initiatives.

Peace-loving states should keep the arms race from spreading into outer space and curb it on earth with concerted efforts. If that is not done, all countries, the entire world, will find themselves with less security. The experience acquired by mankind in developing destructive nuclear weapons should become, in the words of the great Cervantes, "Both a lesson for the present, and a warning for the future."

The tragic accident at the Chernobyl nuclear power plant came as an ample warning to mankind. The misfortune, caused by a breakdown at the station, is not commensurate with the destructive, pernicious whirlwind contained in the nuclear weapons.

Taking advantage of this opportunity, I want to express gratitude to Spain for its expression of sympathy, and for the proposals of aid to eliminate the accident's consequences.

We are drawing conclusions from the mishap — both for ourselves and for cooperation with other countries in the interests of the international community. The Soviet Union suggests establishing an international body for the safe development of the atomic industry, and mending the mechanism for providing reciprocal assistance as soon as possible in dangerous situations. But the most important thing is to achieve the earliest elimination of the catastrophic threat harbored by the thousands of nuclear warheads accumulated in the arsenals of the states. The first step toward that is to end nuclear testing. The Soviet Union's decision to extend its unilateral moratorium until 6 August — Hiroshima Day — was prompted entirely by the aspiration to rid mankind of that threat.

That is why the appeal made by Mikhail Gorbachev in his televised address to the United States -- to weigh with all responsibility the measure of the threat looming over mankind -- is shared by millions of people in all countries of the world.

One hopes that, in the struggle against the nuclear threat, our peoples will always be together, because this cause is common to all.

Our slogan is that scientific and technological progress should promote peace. Among the countries with which the Soviet Union cooperates in the most advanced branches of science and engineering, we would be glad to see more often Spain, a country with growing industrial and scientific potential.

Mr Prime Minister, let me wish you, your esteemed wife, and all our Spanish guests a pleasant and useful stay in our country, good health and well-being. We wish happiness, peace and progress to the friendly Spanish people.

Let Soviet-Spanish relations be further developed for the benefit of our countries' peoples and in the interests of European and universal security.

Gonzalez Dinner Speech

PM220911 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 21 May 86 First Edition p 4

[TASS report on speech by Spanish Prime Minister Felipe Gonzalez in reply to USSR Council of Minister Chairman Ryzhkov's speech at 19 May Kremlin dinner under general headline "In a Friendly Atmosphere"]

[Excerpts] After expressing thanks for the friendly words, the warm reception, and the good wishes to the Spanish people, F. Gonzalez expressed pleasure at being in the capital of the great Soviet land.

Recently, the guest continued, there have been important events in the international arena that force mankind to choose peaceful concord or crises in various regions of the globe and threats to peaceful coexistence and mutual understanding between peoples.

Everyone received the Geneva meeting with great hope. The two great powers -- the USSR and the United States -- cannot ignore each other. The expectation of the next meeting in Geneva and the resumption of talks are encouraging new signs of the desire to achieve mutual understanding, and that must not be lost. For our part, we will make every effort to ensure that this newly resumed dialogue can continue and even become stronger, despite the difficulties that so often overshadow the international situation.

We are confident that dialogue between Eastern and Western countries can be realistic and fruitful if it is based on the following three points: disarmament, the peaceful resolution of all world conflicts, and cooperation between peoples.

The question of disarmament and arms limitation, more than any other, requires study and discussion at international forums. Without losing sight of the tasks that are tackled within the UN framework, it is quite obvious that primary attention must be devoted to talks between the USSR and the United States, the mightiest powers and on whose shoulders world responsibility rests.

The United States and the USSR advanced interesting proposals at the Geneva talks. The differences between them must not allow us to forget what is most important -- the need for decisive steps leading to the attainment of a significant limitation on thermo-nuclear weapons.

Spain receives with great interest any proposals aimed at limiting the arms of the main powers. Important proposals raising the question of destroying nuclear weapons over a long period lose their meaning unless a significant, interconnected disarmament takes place at the same time. Moreover, only through efforts in this direction will it be possible to avoid another increase in the arms race.

The success of disarmament talks requires an improvement in trust between the interlocutors. This can be achieved through the establishment of an appropriate system of information and communication in order to clarify any doubts about each side's intentions, and also by means of the development of a verification mechanism guaranteeing the observance of agreements achieved.

Peace must be sought not only through disarmament, but by overcoming conflicts wherever they may arise. In this sense the relaxation of tension must be regarded not as an exclusively European factor, but as a world factor, in accordance with the Final Act of the Helsinki conference.

It must be noted that the planet has had no world wars since 1945. This is to the credit of the modern international order. However, regional conflicts exist -- from Central America to central Asia, from South Africa to Indochina. Unfortunately, war remains mankind's terrible enemy. While these conflicts continue, mutual distrust between countries will not disappear.

The conference on contacts between people, which was planned by the CSCE, is ending in Berne now. The session's results will be of great significance, since they determine the mood in which the new meeting of CSCE participants will begin in Vienna this fall.

It is not long now to the end of the Stockholm conference, from which we all expect positive results. At the same time, such principles as, for instance, the banning of the use of force in international relations must be reaffirmed and concrete measures must be adopted to strengthen confidence, without which these statements would have no meaning.

We are confident that the process that began in Helsinki has not yet ended. That European dialogue must continue until such time as on our continent Europeans feel they live in greater security.

Despite the difference between our systems, Spain and the USSR declare their desire to achieve peace throughout the world, as well as their desire to increase their citizens' well-being and carry out modernization in their countries. In relation to the USSR, that was stressed by M.S. Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, and by you yourself, at the 27th CPSU Congress.

For my part, I can assure you that our visit has the aim of making a positive contribution in the interests not only of our countries, but of the entire international community.

In conclusion, the Spanish head of government proposed a toast in honor of N.I. Ryzhkov and all those present, to the development of relations between the two countries and to a bright future for the Soviet people.

Meets Gorbachev

LD201655 Moscow TASS in English 1645 GMT 20 May 86

[Excerpts] Moscow, 20 May (TASS)—Mikhail Gorbachev had a meeting in the Kremlin today with the prime minister of Spain, secretary general of the Spanish Socialist Workers' Party Felipe Gonzalez.

When discussing international problems Mikhail Gorbachev and Felipe Gonzalez agreed that the interconnection and interdependence of states is rapidly growing despite the entire diversity and contradictory nature of the present-day world and pressingly dictating the need of a new mentality, of new approaches in world politics.

On the main question — ending the arms race and liquidating the danger of nuclear war — they agreed that understanding of the entire danger of the line that has been approached by the world is decisive. This calls for prompt collective efforts to strengthen the principles of peaceful coexistence, political interaction, dialogue and talks between various states. On confirming his consent to a new meeting with the American President Mikhail Gorbachev stressed that when assessing the prospects of this meeting one cannot depart from the real policy that is being pursued after the first meeting in Geneva. There is much in the behaviour of the United States Administration that is incompatible with political morals, worsens the international atmosphere, increases tension in Soviet-American relations and testifies to the intent to continue the policy of achieving military superiority and intensifying the arms race. There is no sign of steps taken in response to the Soviet initiatives after Geneva, there are no serious proposals concerning the possible practical results of a new summit meeting.

The problem of trust, which also cannot be isolated from readiness to do something concrete to lower the level of armaments, was discussed. If the arms race is spread to new spheres, if the ABM and SALT-2 treaties are undermined, the degree of mistrust will grow in geometrical progression and undermine to a still greater extent the stability of international relations.

The situation must be improved. To achieve this it is time to start somewhere, to start moving, to set an example. That is why we are proposing to start with the most understandable and possible steps that could be taken out of the overall context without disrupting the balance and violating anybody's security, that is to start with the elimination of medium-range missiles in Europe and stopping nuclear tests.

The Soviet Union is prepared to search for mutually acceptable forms of control, but control over disarmament and not over the buildup and perfection of armaments. When it puts its signature to an agreement the Soviet Union keeps its word firmly.

We are in a serious mood, Mikhail Gorbachev went on. In connection with the Chernobyl accident we looked into the eyes of the danger posed by the atom when it escapes control. We shall not be found wanting in solving jointly with other countries the vital questions raised by the nuclear-space age.

As a result of their serious discussion, a frank and wellwishing comparison of positions, displaying mutual respect for opinions and differences of conditions Mikhail Gorbachev and Felipe Gonzalez arrived at the conclusion that it is necessary to deepen interaction between the USSR and Spain in mutual interests, in the interests of the whole of Europe and of improving the situation in the world, and expressed confidence that this visit will give a new impetus to the development of political dialogue, economic and cultural relations, to the expansion of friendly intercourse between the peoples of the two countries.

Mikhail Gorbachev wished the Spanish people progress and prosperity.

Felipe Gonzalez wished the Soviet people success in fulfilling the plans outlined by the 27th CPSU Congress.

Meets Gromyko

LD201939 Moscow TASS in English 1910 GMT 20 May 86

[Excerpts] Moscow, 20 May (TASS)—Member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee, president of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR Andrey Gromyko today received in the Kremlin the Prime Minister of Spain Felipe Gonzalez and the personages accompanying him.

Felipe Gonzalez noted that he was greatly impressed by his frank and substantive conversation with Mikhail Gorbachev.

On mutual agreement Andrey Gromyko and Felipe Gonzalez concentrated their attention on international problems: state terrorism, the situation in Central America and the Mediterranean area.

Andrey Gromyko stressed that the Mediterranean area is an important and dangerous one. Figuratively speaking, its waters have a nuclear filling. The Soviet Union has come out for a radical solution of the problem in that area -- to turn the Mediterranean into a sea of peace.

The Spanish side also stated the need to solve the process of settlement in Central America with the help of the Contadora group and supported the Soviet proposals concerning the Mediterranean Sea.

The problem of European security was also discussed. Andrey Gromyko said that here the USSR has clear-cut proposals of the 27th CPSU Congress but the course of the talks on the European subject-matter bears the imprint of the overall dangerous situation which has now deteriorated in the world through the fault of the United States.

Felipe Gonzalez declared Spain's striving to achieve a positive solution in questions of European security. He also declared for the ending of the arms race, restoration of trust, expansion of East-West dialogue and cooperation, in particular between the Soviet Union and Spain.

Gonzalez 21 May Press Conference

PM231130 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 22 May 86 First Edition p 4

[Excerpts] The results of my visit to the Soviet Union are positive in all respects. I have been able to become more closely acquainted with the main aspects of the USSR's domestic and foreign policy and to see the Soviet Union's desire for fruitful dialogue, disarmament, detente, and peace. This was stated by Spanish Prime Minister R. Gonzalez at a 21 May press conference for Soviet and foreign journalists at the USSR Foreign Press Center.

The guest stressed that he had given himself two main aims: to study the possibility of achieving substantial progress in Spanish-Soviet relations in the political, economic, and cultural spheres, and to exchange opinions with the Soviet leadership on the key international problems of the day. It can be said, he noted, that these aims have been completely achieved. In this connection, I would particularly like to stress the importance of my long and extremely meaningful talk with M.S. Gorbachev. The meeting with the CPSU Central Committee general secretary was not of the traditional kind [netraditsionnyy]; we asked each other many questions and spoke frankly and in detail. I reiterated my invitation to M.S. Gorbachev to visit Spain.

Touching on international problems, the Spanish prime minister highlighted the need for an extensive and productive East-West dialogue and the importance of strengthening trust in links and contacts among states belonging to different sociopolitical systems.

F. Gonzalez said that given an improvement in the overall political climate, progress could be achieved in spheres such as nuclear and conventional arms reductions and the development of the all-European process. Spain, he noted, is in a seemingly privileged position from the viewpoint of disarmament problems. There are no nuclear weapons on its territory and it has no plans to acquire any -- the country does not plan to produce its own nuclear weapons and does not intend to give siting permission for foreign nuclear weapons.

A necessary element in the plan for achieving disarmament, the guest continued, is reciprocity: There can be no such thing as unilateral security; security can only be reciprocal. That is why Spain advocates maintaining military equilibrium at the lowest possible level. In this context, F. Gonzalez stressed once again the importance of strengthening trust among all states.

Spain attaches great importance to the Helsinki process. The Madrid meeting was held not so long ago. Spain has done a great deal to ensure the successful completion of the meeting. My country is in favor of progress being achieved at the Stockholm Conference. That is also important from the viewpoint of giving positive momentum to the Vienna meeting to be held this fall within the CSCE framework.

Certain correspondents inquired whether the Moscow talks had touched on questions linked with the Chernobyl AES accident. F. Gonzalez noted that his country's government and the Spanish people expressed profound and sincere sympathy to the Soviet Union in connection with this disaster. The accident, he said, could happen in any other country and the main thing now is to draw the proper conclusions from it. We share the Soviet leadership's opinion of the need to create an international system for the safe utilization of nuclear power that would include exchanges of information.

The problems of nuclear security concern the interests of citizens of all countries. This concerns to an immeasurably greater extent the utilization of the atom for military purposes. Spain is a convinced advocate of disarmament, including nuclear disarmament, the Spanish prime minister noted.

Concluding the press conference, F. Gonzalez expressed the conviction that the results of the talks in the Soviet capital would promote a strengthening of mutual understanding between Spain and the Soviet Union in the interests of both countries and in the interests of improving the situation in Europe and worldwide.

Moscow TV Version of Press Conference

LD211642 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1430 GMT 21 May 86

[From the "Vremya" newscast]

[Text] A press conference for Soviet and foreign journalists by Spanish Prime Minister Felipe Gonzalez took place in Moscow today. He stated that the results of his visit to the Soviet Union are positive in all respects. The meetings and conversations with Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev and other Soviet leaders have enabled me, Felipe Gonzalez stressed, to acquaint myself more closely with the basic features of the USSR's domestic and foreign policy and to see the Soviet Union's striving toward fruitful dialogue, detente, and peace.

Felipe Gonzalez replied to journalists' questions. Replying in particular to a question about Spain's contribution to the cause of solving all-European problems, including a successful conclusion to the Stockholm conference, he said: [video shows journalist reading question from his notebook, standing in the hall and cuts to Gonzalez saying]

[Gonzalez in Spanish fading into Russian translation] Spain is deeply and concretely interested in the success of a settlement in Europe not only as a full participant in European forums but also as a country seeking to assist the development of a bilateral dialogue between the USSR and the United States in Geneva, as well as the continuation of Soviet-U.S. meetings at summit level. Earlier, Spain did quite a lot so that the Madrid meeting would be crowned with success. At present we are ready to further in every possible way the successful completion of the conferences in Stockholm and Vienna in full accordance with the spirit of Helsinki.

Speaking specifically of the conference in Stockholm, we believe that after the intensive exchange of views that has taken place there, a maximum effort should be made to advance along the road toward the strengthening of measures of confidence of the continent.

Completing the press conference, Felipe Gonzalez expressed the conviction that the results of the talks in Moscow will assist the strengthening of mutual understanding between Spain and the Soviet Union in the interests of both countries and in the interests of the improvement of the situation in Europe and throughout the world.

Madrid Radio Version

LD211504 Madrid Domestic Service in Spanish 0600 GMT 21 May 86

[Text] In Moscow the press conference given by Prime Minister Felipe Gonzalez to provide details of the long conversation -- almost 5 hours -- that he held yesterday with Soviet Leader Mikhail Gorbachev is continuing.

The prime minister opened the press conference saying that the purpose of the visit -- to improve bilateral relations and jointly examine the international situation -- had been achieved, then went on to outline the main topics he had discussed with Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev during the nearly 5-hour-long meeting they held yesterday.

[Begin Gonzalez recording -- broadcast in progress] ... devoted to an examination or an exposition, with questions and answers on both sides, of the evolution of events in Spain, the [word indistinct] of democratic change in Spain. We paid special attention to matters of modernizing the economic situation, and also to matters concerning Spain's foreign policy. We also examined the situation in the Soviet Union, their plans for economic modernization -- we talked at great length about those modernization plans as set forth in the theses delivered at the 27th congress in mid-February. From there we moved on to an examination of the international situation. This is a subject ranging from the foreign debts of some Third World countries and the need to find a suitable response to this, to the main area concerned with an examination of the international situation, namely matters to do with disarmament policy and peace in various forums. There are bilateral forums, to which we naturally attribute enormous importance, given that the Soviet Union [words indistinct] has the greatest responsibility in the sense of (defending) a policy of disarmament, both strategic and tactical. And there are other forums, such as the Stockholm conference, which falls within the framework of the Conference, on Security and Cooperation in Europe. [end recording]

[Paris AFP in English at 1303 GMT on 21 May reports on the press conference and adds the following: "The Spanish premier said the talks (with Soviet leaders) had been 'extremely interesting and cordial' also had dealt with the Mediterranean and Central America, the Third World foreign debt and European cooperation."]

The meeting also dealt with the international situation created by the accident at the Soviet nuclear power station at Chernobyl. The two politicians, Felipe Gonzalez and Mikhail Gorbachev, declared themselves in agreement that all countries should cooperate to put an end to the risks inherent in accidents of this kind.

[Begin Gonzalez recording] And I can state something that I see as very positive. The thinking that has followed this accident generated a need to set up a mechanism for exchange of information and for cooperation at an international level capable of helping everyone to be aware of, halt, foresee, or combat the consequences of accidents of this kind. Indeed, this subject came up in our talks. We had certain ideas about the role played by the IAEA, and we talked about this. I would say that the discussion was conducted with a tone of concern, but at the same time in a very constructive tone, which I hope it will be possible to maintain in the future as a dialogue between countries trying to foresee, and of course to combat, the consequences of disasters such as this. [end recording]

Mikhail Gorbachev and Felipe Gonzalez also spoke about the crisis in the Mediterranean, though they did not go into detail on this subject.

[Begin Gonzalez recording] There is a difference in our evaluation [words indistinct], differences of emphasis in our view of the problem. We are worried by certain kinds of activity that go beyond the usual essence of relations between states, activities that worry many of our countries, and specifically Spain. It emerged from what they said to us that for the Soviet Union it is difficult to understand how such activities can occur. You know what the Soviet Union's position is: It has condemned the U.S. intervention. You also know the Spanish position, one that we have stated repeatedly: We disagree with the use of force to solve major problems that concern us. These are known positions which we have stuck to throughout these talks. [end recording]

Arms reduction is also a common concern of the two politicians.

[Begin Gonzalez recording] My view is that any analysis aimed at reducing weapons of any kind must be attempted from a global standpoint, to ensure that disarmament is balanced and guarantees reciprocal security. [end recording]

We now have another report from our special correspondents in Moscow on further details of the press conference held by Prime Minister Felipe Gonzalez; Carlos Agrasar and Mercedes Jansa from Moscow:

[Agrasar] I am going to make a brief summary of what Prime Minister Gonzalez has said since our last linkup and on what he is saying now. Prime Minister Gonzalez said that during his meeting with Gorbachev, there was no specific reference to holding an international conference to solve the Middle East problem, as the Soviet Union put forward, although the Spanish side is in favor of a peaceful and negotiated solution to the problems. They also did not discuss a forthcoming visit by Gorbachev to Latin America, as one of the journalists asked him.

[Jansa] The Spanish prime minister also referred to relations in the Mediterranean crisis and to the U.S. attack on Libya. On the crisis in the Mediterranean, Felipe Gonzalez said that any measure of detente will have to be seriously analyzed by all the countries and that any analysis aimed at reducing armaments in the Mediterranean will also have to be from the point of view of the balance of security and of the two sides' credibility to reduce armaments. On the subject of the Olympic Games, the prime minister was asked whether the Soviet Union will support the candidature of Barcelona for the Olympic Games in 1992. He was sparing in words, he said. The subject was discussed -- I believe that the candidature of Barcelona is a good candidature.

[Agrasar] There was not any comment between the two interlocutors on the results of the referendum on NATO in Spain. According to Prime Minister Gonzalez, the Soviet side accepts this decision of the Spanish people because it is a sovereign decision. Felipe Gonzalez does not believe that it is any obstacle to the ability of bilateral relations to continue to develop as usual.

[Jansa] Felipe Gonzalez repeated at this press conference that economic relations between Spain and the Soviet Union are only at one-third of the level of the exchange between the USSR and the various countries of the EEC. We have the duty to gain the ground lost following many years of diplomatic relations, Felipe Gonzalez said, to gain ground lost with tenacity and effort, which must continue following the contacts between businessmen and the Minister of Economy and Finance during this 48-hour official visit. Prime Minister Gonzalez was asked what point of view he had taken with

the top Soviet leader, Mikhail Gorbachev, on the possibility of cooperation in anti-terrorist matters among several countries in the area [word indistinct], in particular between Spain and the Soviet Union. Felipe Gonzalez said that an effort to reduce terrorism to its (?just), precise and [word indistinct] terms is necessary. Felipe Gonzalez is now being asked whether he can forecast the result of the forthcoming general election on 22 June in our country. Felipe Gonzalez merely said that he cannot forecast anything at the moment and that this was not the appropriate place to say anything about this.

[Agrasar] We are back to the room where Prime Minister Gonzalez is speaking. According to the announcement by the director general of press cooperation, Mr Castedo, it will last until 0837 this morning Spanish time.

[Begin Gonzalez recording -- broadcast in progress] ... the Soviet Union, the economic planning, and consequently the economic decision centers are centers of political responsibility as well, and consequently, where there is the possibility of a dialogue between governments in other social and economic systems. Businessmen deal directly with one another from firm to firm. Here, of course, the decisions made from the point of view of the plan must be taken into consideration, and the plan is established at the central level. I also would not like to appear to be defending or excluding some operations and including others, because the subjects of ships and railways are at a very interesting level of development. I believe that on the Spanish side, the same is true of the process of buying crude oil from the Soviet Union. But there are more subjects....[end recording]

The sound from Moscow of this press conference, which is being held by the prime minister, is not as good as we would like it to be. We will have another report from our special correspondents later and have a longer summary of what the prime minister said at this press conference, which we are broadcasting live.

Moscow Radio Assesses Visit

LD241107 Moscow in Spanish to Spain 1900 GMT 23 May 86

[Commentary by Moscow radio Observer Vladimir Malynin]

[Text] The first official visit to the USSR by Spanish head of government Felipe Gonzalez was without doubt a milestone in the history of our bilateral relations. During the constructive talks held in Moscow an analysis was made of pressing international subjects as well as the state of Soviet-Spanish relations.

Regarding the international agenda, the two sides agreed that the elimination of nuclear weapons and an end to the arms race are of decisive importance for bringing about a radical improvement in the world situation. The Soviet side laid particular emphasis on the need to prevent an arms race in space. The Soviet delegation stressed that the foreign policy initiatives and the proposal for a comprehensive system of international security advanced by the USSR are aimed at removing the threat of war and promoting international security.

Mindful of its responsibility for the security of its people and the whole of mankind, the Soviet Government has decided to extend the unilateral moratorium on nuclear tests until 6 August. During his meeting with Felipe Gonzalez, USSR Council of Ministers Chairman Nikolay Ryzhkov said that it is absolutely essential to adopt a new approach in international relations and to combine the efforts of states with different social systems to end the worldwide arms race and drastically improve the world political climate. During the talks it was acknowledged that an indispensable element of normal East-West relations is a widespread productive dialogue in the political, parliamentary, and social spheres. Both sides attached primary importance to having agreed to contribute to strengthening peace and eliminating the arms race.

Spanish Prime Minister Felipe Gonzalez highly assessed the Soviet initiatives on disarmament, saying that they are a considerable boost to the efforts to reduce and eliminate weapons. Bearing in mind the fact that the USSR and Spain are European states, the two sides said they are in favor of an active role by Europe in the recovery and improvement of detente and for developing the process of greater security and cooperation on the European Continent.

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RELATED ISSUES

TASS: PERLE CRITICIZES FRG SPD ON SDI STANCE, CW ARMS

LD281539 Moscow TASS in English 1525 GMT 28 May 86

[Text] Moscow, 28 May (TASS)--TASS commentator Petr Parkhitko writes:

Richard Perle, U.S. assistant secretary of defense, has delivered a stinging attack on the biggest opposition party of West Germany, the Social Democratic Party (SPD) of Germany, trying to impose upon it the U.S. idea of 'reshaping the world'. The official representative of Washington was displeased with the negative attitude of Social Democrats to the "star wars" program and with their support for the idea of creating in Europe zones free from chemical weapons and for the need of preserving the existing parity in the military sphere between NATO and the Warsaw Treaty Organization.

Speaking Tuesday in Bonn at a session of the Friedrich Ebert Fund which is close to the Social Democratic Party of Germany, R. Perle began to lecture well-known FRG politicians on how they should understand the 'Atlantic solidarity'. He said unceremoniously that the policy pursued by the Social Democratic leadership could only make Moscow happy and add a feeling of uncertainty to the West.

One is sure to notice that Washington has been showing special interest of late in the Social Democratic Party of Germany and its initiatives. The overseas leaders cannot conceal the fact that the stand of that party with regard to problems of international politics does not suit the U.S.

It is not accidental that it is R. Perle who spoke in Bonn. He is one of the key figures in the Pentagon and an advocate of the most adventurist militarist plans of the White House. R. Perle tried to exert pressure on the leaders of the party in order to facilitate the implementation of the U.S. program of action on the chemical 'additional armament' and a further heightening of tension in the world in general and in Europe in particular.

However, Washington's emissary was decisively repulsed. Social Democratic politicians, including Karsten Voigt, Andreas von Bulow and others, denounced the U.S. policy from the position of strength and emphasized that it was aimed not at the consolidation of universal peace; but at a confrontation with the Soviet Union. According to the leadership of the Social Democratic Party of Germany, this policy can only lead to the isolation of the U.S. in the international arena.

The attempt of R. Perle to bring pressure to bear on Social Democrats is evidence of Washington's adventurist approach to the solution of the problems of war and peace. However, West Europeans come to realize ever more clearly that these problems should be solved urgently and by joint efforts, on the basis of the understanding of the danger that is hanging over all the countries in equal measure.

RELATED ISSUES

FRG SAARLAND PREMIER VISITS USSR

Arrives in Moscow

PM211347 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 18 May 86 First Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Moscow Arrival"]

[Text] O. Lafontaine, minister-president of Saarland (FRG), arrived in Moscow on 16 May. The prime minister and his entourage were met at the airport by A.K. Antonov, deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, and other officials.

Talks With Gromyko

LD211655 Moscow TASS in English 1640 GMT 21 May 86

[Text] Moscow May 21 TASS -- Oskar Lafontaine: We believe that all efforts made by governments in the economic, cultural and other fields should aim for bringing about detente.

Andrey Gromyko: A good cause indeed!

These remarks opened a meeting between Andrey Gromyko, a member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee, president of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR, and Oskar Lafontaine, prime minister of Saar state (the FRG), a member of the board of the Social Democratic Party of Germany in the Kremlin today.

Andrey Gromyko expounded in detail the Soviet viewpoint on the problem of terminating nuclear weapon tests. This problem is understood by every person, even a layman. Despite the fact that the USSR extended the moratorium on nuclear explosions till August 6, 1986, the U.S. Administration with strange fanaticism insists on the conduct of nuclear weapons tests and carries them out.

The Soviet Union believes that a test ban would become an important element of a series of measures which would facilitate more radical decisions. If the West German Government put its weight behind the idea of ending nuclear tests, it would make a great contribution to the relaxation of tension and to progress towards the elimination of nuclear weapons. But it is not doing so.

The sides agreed that the ending of nuclear tests was a priority goal today. At the same time Oskar Lafontaine stressed that he was opposed to any use of nuclear energy.

Andrey Gromyko replied that the Soviet Union was consistently opposed to the military uses of nuclear energy, as is shown by a large-scale program for the elimination of nuclear weapons by the end of this century, put forward by Mikhail Gorbachev in his statement of January 15, 1986 and reiterated by the resolutions of the 27th CPSU Congress. As for the peaceful uses of nuclear energy, we should reckon with realities: "Peaceful atom" has already become a sizeable industrial sector in many countries.

Both sides expressed their common view that it was necessary to work out international agreements with the aim to ensure safety in the development of nuclear power engineering and to draw into the process as many countries as possible. The Chernobyl accident calls for it, it is demanded by broad public circles the world over. This view is understandable to millions of people.

Andrey Gromyko emphasized that the response to the present-day demand of nations consisted in a combined implementation of two tasks -- on the one hand, international cooperation in peaceful uses of nuclear energy and, on the other hand, the successful struggle for the elimination of nuclear weapons.

Unfortunately, a handful of politicians who oppose this approach are a stumbling bloc on this way. Should we risk the lives of millions of people in order to satisfy the ambitions of this handful of politicians who are possessed by the idea of achieving military superiority and are imposing their "star war" plans on other countries?

Oskar Lafontaine described the USSR's proposals on ending nuclear testing as good. We will always support them, he said. The negative stand of the SPD on the U.S. SDI programme and plans for the chemical weapons race was reaffirmed.

The mutual wish and striving was expressed to broaden relations between the Soviet Union and the FRG on the basis of the Moscow Treaty of 1970. The fruitfulness of such cooperation was demonstrated in the past, is felt at present and can manifest itself with fresh force in future, if both countries strive.

Comments on Talks

LD211945 Hamburg DPA in German 1321 GMT 21 May 86

[Excerpt] Moscow, 21 May -- Oskar Lafontaine (SPD), minister-president of the Saarland, was received by Soviet head of state Andrey Gromyko in Moscow on Wednesday at the start of his political talks. Lafontaine told Western correspondents that a region-twinning arrangement between the Soviet republic of Georgia and the Saarland was agreed as a result of his talk. A treaty to this effect was still to be signed.

Hitherto, there was already a town-twinning arrangement between Saarbruecken and the Georgian republican capital of Tbilisi. Lafontaine returned to Moscow on Tuesday after a 4-day visit to Georgia.

According to him, during the 1 and 1/2 hour talk, Lafontaine explained his attitude toward nuclear energy which, in his view, should not be used either militarily or peacefully. Gromyko, to be sure, spoke out against a military use of nuclear energy, but stressed that the Soviet Union intends to continue to back the peaceful use of nuclear energy.

They also spoke about topics in international disarmament, Lafontaine said. He welcomed the extension of the Soviet moratorium on nuclear tests up to 6 August. This is a first step on the road toward international disarmament, which other states possessing nuclear weapons should join.

Meets With Dobrynin, Zagladin

LD211948 Moscow TASS in English 1850 GMT 21 May 86

[Text] Moscow May 21 TASS -- Anatoliy Dobrynin, secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, and Vadim Zagladin, member of the CPSU Central Committee and first deputy head of the International Department of the CPSU Central Committee, met today with Oskar Lafontaine, prime minister of Saarland (West Germany), member of the board of the Social Democratic Party of Germany.

During the conversation the sides discussed some questions connected with the international situation, the consolidation of security and cooperation on the European Continent and the development of relations between the CPSU and the Social Democratic Party of Germany.

The sides noted the identity of views on the need for taking effective measures by all countries aimed at curtailing the arms race, eliminating nuclear and chemical weapons and other weapons of mass destruction, and substantially reducing conventional armaments, especially in Europe.

The sides went on record in favour of the development of constructive cooperation between the West and the East in various spheres in the interest of peace and people.

News Conference

PM271631 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 24 May 86 First Edition p 4

[TASS report: "In Favor of Expanded Cooperation"]

[Text] The aim of my visit to the Soviet Union was to promote the development of economic relations between Saarland (FRG) and the USSR, including the expansion of partnership ties between Saarbruecken and Tbilisi and Saarland and Georgia, O. Lafontaine, minister-president of Saarland and member of the Board of the Social Democratic Party of Germany said at a press conference for Soviet and foreign journalists held at the USSR Foreign Ministry Press Center on 23 May. Lafontaine is in our country at the invitation of the Soviet Government.

The guest noted that, in addition to questions pertaining to the expansion of economic cooperation, a wide range of international problems was discussed during his visit. He said that the sides had noted that their viewpoints coincided on such issues as ending nuclear tests, preventing the arms race from spreading to space, and creating nuclear-free and chemical weapon-free zones in Europe.

Ending nuclear tests would be a first step toward confidence building and disarmament, the minister-president emphasized. It is beyond question that any agreements in the disarmament sphere must be subject to verification [kontrol]. In our view, O. Lafontaine said, the technical facilities for monitoring [kontrol] nuclear tests presents no problem.

Touching on the question of economic contacts, he said that there are many spheres in Saarland and in the USSR where mutually advantageous cooperation between the two countries is possible.

O. Lafontaine said that he had the opportunity to express profound sympathy to the Soviet people in connection with the accident at the Chernobyl AES. He noted that the feeling of compassion should be in the forefront of international reaction to this disaster. Concern over the events at Chernobyl and the unleashing of an anti-Soviet campaign must have nothing in common with each other.

The minister-president of Saarland noted that his talks in the Soviet Union were held in a friendly and frank atmosphere, even when it was a matter of questions on which there were differences of opinion. My visit was useful and has produced positive results, the guest emphasized.

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